

Hafa Adai!

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Spotlight focused anew on Torres' expenditures

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan) announced Friday the opening of her committee's investigation into Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' expenditures related to COVID-19 procurement, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC matters, and travel and reimbursements, and if the committee's findings warrant it, it could lead to impeachment raps being filed against the governor.

See SPOTLIGHT on Page 4



PH INDEPENDENCE DAY

JOSHUA SANTOS

Members of the Filipino community on Saipan had a motorcade last Saturday afternoon as part of celebrations of the 123rd Philippine Independence Day. The motorcade began near Dandan Middle School and ended at the Garapan Fishing Base. Earlier in the day, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed the CNMI-Republic of the Philippines Friendship proclamation at Marianas High School.

Story on Page 2

Finance releases over \$3.4M tax refunds

The Department of Finance released over the weekend the first batch of \$3.4 million in regular tax refunds to 4,600 taxpayers, with over \$800,000 of these funds be-

ing directly deposited into bank accounts.

The department announced the issuance of the first tranche of tax refunds in a news release last Friday.

According to Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig, the first batch is composed of filers who filed on time and are clear of any errors.

See FINANCE on Page 4

Another 10-cent increase in gas prices

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

The surge in gas prices continues with the cost of fuel in the CNMI increasing by another

10 cents in just a little over a month.

Oil companies in the Marianas increased their prices of fuel per gallon over the weekend, with Mobil Oil Marianas

leading the way early Friday morning. Shell Marianas followed Mobil's lead early Saturday morning.

From \$4.62 a gallon, Mobil

See GAS on Page 4

INSIDE



NATION

Leaders of the world's largest economies unveiled an infrastructure plan to compete with China.

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WORLD

Israel is set to swear in a new government that will oust Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

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LIFE & STYLE

The teenager who recorded George Floyd being pinned to the ground is honored by the Pulitzer.

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Local

Filipino community marks 123rd PH Independence Day

By JOSHUA SANTOS
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REPORTER

Saipan's Filipino community gathered to celebrate the 123rd Philippines Independence Day last Saturday, holding events in the morning and afternoon to commemorate the Philippines' declaration of independence from Spain on June 12, 1898. The theme for this year's celebration is "Diwa ng kalyaan sa pagkakaisa at paghilom ng bayan" (spirit of freedom for national unity and healing) as the Philippines begins its road to recovery in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Saturday's celebrations began with the raising of the Philippine flag at Marianas High School at 7am, followed by a gathering at the school's cafeteria, where Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed the CNMI-Republic of the Philippines Friendship proclamation. In the afternoon, leaders of the Filipino community held a motorcade that began at Dandan Middle School and ended at Garapan Fishing Base.

In signing the CNMI-Republic of the Philippines Friendship proclamation, Tor-



JOSHUA SANTOS

Flanked by participants in last Saturday's 123rd Philippine Independence Day celebration at Marianas High School, Philippine Honorary Consul to the CNMI Glicerio Eli DM Arago and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, seated front row, show the CNMI-Philippines Friendship proclamation that Torres signed last Saturday.

res thanked the many Filipino workers who have come to the CNMI for decades and recognized the community's many contributions to the CNMI and its economy.

In remarks after signing the proclamation, Torres spoke

of the roles that many Filipinos played in developing the CNMI, and spoke of how the later generations of Filipinos who have grown up in the CNMI go on to do great things for the community.

"On behalf of my wife and

lieutenant governor I want to thank you for not just making the CNMI your home, but also [for] your children for representing the CNMI," said Torres, who also took part in a ceremonial cake slicing alongside Philippine honorary con-

sul to the CNMI Glicerio "Eli" Arago.

United Filipino Organization president Marcelo Masilungan, Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan, and TanHoldings president Jerry Tan as representative of the

CNMI's business sector also gave remarks at the event.

Sablan drew many parallels between the CNMI's and the Philippines' histories and how thousands of Filipinos have made the Marianas "a second home."

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Nine terminated firefighters sue to be reinstated

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The nine firefighters who were sacked for failing to comply with mandatory COVID-19 vaccination requirements now want to be reinstated and are suing the Department of Fire

and Emergency Medical Services and its commissioner, Dennis Mendiola, to make that happen.

In the lawsuit filed with the Superior Court last week, the terminated firefighters are alleging violations of their constitutional rights to privacy,

due process, deprivation of rights and property, and violations of equal protection of the laws. They are asking the court to issue an injunctive relief, reinstating them as firefighters with back pay and cost of bringing the suit.

The firefighters also asked

the court to issue an order declaring that their terminations were invalid and unlawful, and to set the terminations aside.

The nine firefighters—represented by attorney Jeffrey Horey—are Paul T. Acebedo, Jose K. Angui, Allen T. Calvo, Cain C. Castro, Argernon A. Flores, Derek B. Gersonde, Shawn DLR Kaipat, Philip M. Kalen and Adam J. Safer.

The plaintiffs claimed that, by mandating an unconsented physical intrusion into the plaintiffs' bodies—in this case the injection of a vaccine—the plaintiffs' constitutional right to privacy was breached.

"There is a constitutionally protected liberty interest in refusing unwanted medical treatment. The forcible injection of medication into a nonconsenting person's body represents a substantial interference with that person's liberty. A person's interest in freedom from unwanted medical treatment is fundamental. It can be infringed only upon a showing that the protection of a compelling public interest could not have been accomplished by any other less intrusive means, and the government has not shown and cannot show this," said the suit.

The plaintiffs also argue that, by imposing mandatory vaccination, defendants have deprived them of liberty without due process of law, in violation of the Constitution.

"By accepting free exercise of religion as an exemption from vaccination, while not accepting the rights of individual privacy, due process, and freedom from unconsented bodily intrusions asserted by plaintiffs, defendants have established a preference for one fundamental constitutional right, and those who assert it, over another, in violation of the equal protection of the law," they stated.

According to court documents, Mendiola announced last March 16, 2021, that all department employees were required to register for vaccination by March 18. However, several firefighters were reluctant to receive the vaccine due to their concerns over its possibly adverse short-term effects and its unknown long-term effects.

On March 18, the plaintiffs and 14 other firefighters petitioned Mendiola to exempt them but this was denied. Instead, on March 19, Mendiola placed the 23 signatories of

the petition on administrative duty. Some of the signatories later agreed to be vaccinated, but not the nine plaintiffs.

On April 12, the plaintiffs were notified that they would be terminated from DFEMS after 30 days, effective May 12, on the grounds of insubordination.

On April 28, the plaintiffs requested that the termination notices be rescinded, saying the proposed terminations would violate their constitutional rights. While the issue was under consideration, the termination date was extended to May 21, 2021.

On May 14, the plaintiffs proposed numerous ideas to Mendiola for alternative duties they could perform that would enable them to continue in their jobs while reducing or eliminating the need for them to interact with members of the public. On May 20, Mendiola allegedly rejected all proposals.

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Viches leads top winners in MVA's photo contest



A photo by Michi Aldan Viches of the House of Taga historic site on Tinian wins first place in the Marianas Visitors Authority's photo contest held during May Tourism Month 2021.

MVA



An aerial photo by Saixian Babsic of the House of Taga historic site on Tinian wins second place in the Marianas Visitors Authority's photo contest held during May Tourism Month 2021.

MVA

A photo by Marthonia Borja of the House of Taga historic site on Tinian wins third place in the Marianas Visitors Authority's photo contest held during May Tourism Month 2021.

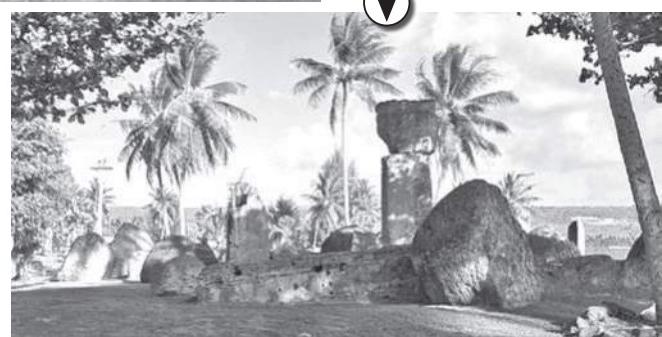
MVA

Images of Tachogna Beach and House of Taga have captured the win in the Marianas Visitors Authority's #CaptureYourTinianTreasure photo contest on Facebook.

Winning entries for the May Tourism Month contest were submitted by Michi Aldan Viches (first place), Saixian Babsic (second place), and Mathonia Borja (third place). The contest was open to residents of the Marianas and invited participants to post their photo of Tinian on Facebook with the hashtags #VisitTheMarianas and #CaptureYourTinianTreasure. Winners were selected by a panel of MVA employees.

"The entries for the #CaptureYourTinianTreasure were really stunning, and it was great to see the people's enthusiasm for Tinian," said MVA Tinian Field Operations supervisor Vida Borja. "Social media is one everyone can help promote the Marianas. We invite everyone to tag their scenic photos of The Marianas with #MyMarianas, #TheMarianas, or #VisitTheMarianas to help share the beauty of our home with the world."

Cash prices were awarded: \$150 for first place, \$100 for second place, and \$75 for third place. (MVA)



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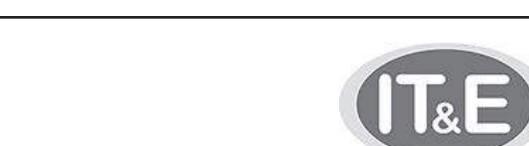


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GAS*From Page 1*

Oil Marianas hiked its prices up to \$4.72 a gallon for their Extra fuel. Mobil also raised their Supreme fuel from \$5.07 a gallon to \$5.17 while their diesel fuel also went up from \$4.68 a gallon to \$4.78.

A 20-year-old woman who was recently called back to work full time described the gas price increase as "the new normal."

"It's not a shock anymore. An increase in gas prices is just as normal as wearing masks now. Since the start of the year, we haven't seen the price of gas go down yet," she said.

A 57-year-old man who is in between construction projects said he just can't deal with gas prices nearing the \$5 mark.

"I used to be able to fill my tank up in under \$40. Now it's over \$40 and, with the construction agency also taking a hit from delayed shipments in material, I'm on a tight budget and the increase in gas prices throws off the budget," he said.

According to various media outlets, the increase in oil prices is brought on by a pickup in economic activity and



The increase in gas prices continues with the cost of fuel in the CNMI increasing by another 10 cents last week.

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

subsequent demand for fuel.

As the nation transitions into summer time, the demand for fuel also increases due to people hitting the road and given the fact that this time last year, majority of the world was subjected to home quarantine, many

are more than thrilled to be hitting the road.

The most common price nationwide is just one tenth of a cent below \$3 compared to last year when the nationwide average price of fuel was a little below \$2.

simultaneously with the RRC payments and anticipates approximately \$2.4 million to be issued. DOF will notify the public of the next release dates when available.

In the news release last Friday, Gov.

Ralph DLG Torres reiterated his adminstration's commitment to releasing tax refunds, rebates, and child tax as soon as they become available.

"Lt. Gov. [Arnold L.] Palacios and I want our hardworking taxpayers to know that this administration is taking every measure possible to get these funds in your hands, starting with this initial batch of \$3.4 million in regular tax refunds. These funds will help families with children in-

crease their ability to meet their most immediate needs, while also supporting our local businesses. Thank you to our community for their patience, and sincere appreciation to the staff of the Department of Finance for their hard work," said Torres.

Atalig himself thanked DOF's

personnel under the Division of Revenue and Taxation, CNMI Treasury, and Division of Information Technology for their hard work ensuring that funds are processed accurately and as quickly as possible. "We are excited for the release of these funds so that families can improve their current financial situation and increase spending in our economy," he said. (PR)

failed to appear.

It was during this hearing that the court ordered Triple J to recover \$9,167.70 from the plaintiffs for damages associated with nonpayment of goods and services according to their contract.

Additionally, the court awarded prejudgment interest as provided by the contract between the parties in the amount of \$821.11.

Triple J sued Pacific Foods CNMI and Yumul in his capacity as company president for 28 breaches of contract.

This case is separate from the lawsuit that Bank of Guam also filed against shuttered restaurant IHOP and its owners to collect on \$317,238.28 that it claims the restaurant owes on a \$578,500 loan that remains unpaid. The bank, through lawyer Charity R. Hodson, is suing Pacific Pancakes (CNMI) LLC and its mother company, Pacific Foods (CNMI), LLC, in Superior Court for the NMI for breach of contract.

FINANCE*From Page 1*

Taxpayers who opted to have a mailed refund check have to allow two weeks' time for the U.S. Postal Service to sort and distribute the mail.

The department's Division of Revenue & Taxation will be processing the Recovery Rebate Credit, also known as the stimulus, in a separate payment from the regular refunds. DRT anticipates nearly \$400,000 in RRC payments to go out next week to over 300 taxpayers.

DRT will also begin issuing the Advance Child Tax Credit refunds

simultaneously with the RRC payments and anticipates approximately \$2.4 million to be issued. DOF will notify the public of the next release dates when available.

In the news release last Friday, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres reiterated his administration's commitment to releasing tax refunds, rebates, and child tax as soon as they become available.

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the committee's findings warrant impeachment, their investigation is the beginning of the Democrats' plan to impeach Torres for corruption.

Last Friday, Babauta said the committee's investigation is the right step and that no one needs to be afraid. "The pendulum of justice is in full swing. There are no exceptions to the rule of law," she said.

Babauta said the JGO committee has the constitutional and legislative

duty to protect and defend against the diminution, the subversion, and the destruction of the CNMI Constitution, citing the search and seizures the FBI did on Torres and his spouse, Diann, his vehicle, his tax records, the personal

residences of his family, and the law firm of his brothers in what is alleged to be his association with the exclusive casino licensee, IPI. Babauta said these investigations also allege illegal campaign contributions.

The JGO held the meeting Friday to address the then-House minority's report that was provided by Villagomez last June 3 upon Babauta's request.

Babauta said the minority report was produced in the 21st Legislature when they didn't complete the in-

vestigation into the governor's expenditures.

The then-House minority bloc's report has a finding that the records they reviewed show that Torres took 102 trips that cost the CNMI government at least \$490,000 in airfare, per diem and stipends, lodging, ground transportation, boat transportation, fuel, and incidentals from January 2015 to July 2020.

In their 24-page report, the minority bloc noted that because Torres nearly always traveled with companions, including his wife, personal security detail, other staff, and other officials at government expense, the total actual cost of executive travel during the period in review is significantly greater.

The report was signed by then-House minority leader Rep. Christina Sablan (D-Saipan) and then-Reps. Franklin Babauta (Ind-Saipan), Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), Richard Lizama (D-Saipan), Sheila Babauta (D-Saipan), and Donald Manglona (Ind-Rota).

The report recommends that legislative oversight should be conducted on the Department of Finance to review the status of adoption of uniform travel regulations for the government, and the implementation of

Finance policy regarding official representation and reimbursements.

They said, among other recommendations, that Legislative oversight into Torres' public expenditures should continue in the 22nd Legislature.

The previous House Special Committee on Fiscal Review of Executive Expenditures chaired by Rep. Ralph N. Yumul (R-Saipan), which was created to review the expenditures Torres, has found that they are unable to reach a decision.

At Friday's meeting, the House Committee on JGO addressed some procedural matters related to their investigation.

Babauta said the committee members gave her the authority to issue what they call 1309 letters to several people to bring in documents so they can examine them and require their presence by this Friday.

Letter 1309 in the Commonwealth Code refers to acquisition of information by other lawful means.

She said with these letters, people are given five days to reply, but that at this time she cannot reveal the first three witnesses they will call.

Babauta said Torres will be called in later time once they take care of the other witnesses.

SPOTLIGHT*From Page 1*

Babauta, who is the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations chair, said at the committee meeting Friday that the investigation is in consultation with House Speaker Rep. Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) and committee members.

"There is no doubt that holding an impeachment is contentious," Babauta said.

This makes it the House's second look into Torres' expenditures. The same matter was also looked at in the 21st Legislature but Babauta said they didn't complete that investigation into the governor's expenditures.

When sought for comments yesterday, press secretary Kevin Bautista said the impetus of this investigation is not parliamentary procedure, but a political tactic that Babauta and the Democrats will "constantly use to fulfill a blatant political agenda, bringing up an old report that was not a formal committee correspondence." That old report was the minority bloc's report from the 21st Legislature, Bautista added.

He said in the last Legislature, the



Babauta

composition of the special committee was balanced, having representatives from both parties and its final conclusion showed no findings of consequence.

"This has been addressed and covered multiple times, yet it continues to be brought up by the same representatives who ran on a smear campaign and covered by the same reporters that cover choreographed public hearings and scripted speeches," he said.

The press secretary said Friday's House Committee hearing was convened by seven Democrats and two Republicans.

"It is plain to see where this is going to go: a one-sided legislative witch hunt on an issue that has been brought up multiple times," Bautista said.

Babauta said the removal of any sitting officer in the executive or judicial branch is a very serious matter for any government. "But the Constitution is clear: Impeachment is a process meant to hold our leaders accountable for serious infractions against the laws of our land," she pointed out.

In response to *Saipan Tribune*'s inquiry, Babauta said yesterday that if

Tasi to Table welcomes participants to student fishing derby

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tasi to Table treated student delegations from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota last Friday night to a welcome dinner at the Smiling Cove Marina before its Youth Experiential Mini-Derby that took place last Saturday, also at the Smiling Cove Marina.

Fourteen team captains, all of them avid fishermen in the community who have their own vessels, joined in welcoming the 11 high school students from Saipan, 14 students from Tinian Jr./Sr. High School, and eight students from Rita H. Inos Jr./Sr. High School to Friday night's dinner.

Some notable team captains were Chief Justice Alejandro C. Castro, Associate Justice Perry B. Inos, master navigator Cecilio Raiukilupi, Roil Soil Clothing owner Shayne Villanueva, and Pacific Auto owner Gonzalo Pangelinan Jr. The dinner also welcomed several CNMI leaders as guests, including Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig, and Tinian Municipal Council chair Jo-

Aldan named to head new IT office

Clifford H. Aldan has been appointed chief of the newly created Office of Information Technology within the Department of Finance.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres notified legislative leaders last week about Aldan's appointment as chief information officer. He will be receiving \$80,000 per annum. The governor's letter did not indicate Aldan's background.

In executive order 2021-09 he issued last April 27, Torres directed Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig to create the Office of Information Technology, with the chief information officer serving under and reporting directly to Atalig.

The governor said the lack of a centrally coordinated efforts on unified software platforms has placed the CNMI government at great risk of cyberattacks. Currently, most agencies and government facilities either have in-house IT staff or outsource their IT needs to local or off-island third-party vendors.

He said the lack of cohesion between software vendors between departments and agencies of the government inhibits collaboration and hinders adaptation to more advanced tools at great expense to the Commonwealth. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Tasi to Table leadership, high school students from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, and 14 team captains come together for a welcoming dinner Friday evening at the Smiling Cove Marina before the Youth Experiential Mini-Derby on Saturday, also at the Smiling Cove Marina.

JOSHUA SANTOS



seph E. Santos.

At the dinner, the 33 participating students picked at random who their team captain will be for the Saturday derby. The fishing derby's 14 captains each took in two to four students into their team, and after the students picked their captain, the newly-formed teams discussed over dinner their strategies for Saturday.

Palacios, who gave the welcoming remarks, talked about how fishing is a crucial aspect of the CNMI culture and was happy to see students from Rota, Tinian, and Saipan come together. He also thanked those within Rota and Tinian leadership for bringing their students to Saipan and for their continuous support of Tasi to Table.

In separate interviews, Santos said that it was TTT vice president Wayne Pangelinan who reached out to him two months ago to launch a TTT chapter on Tinian, and that he is

more than happy to support the organization. For Saturday, he hoped that Tinian's 14 students would "give all they got."

Atalig also expressed support of TTT's initiatives. "I'm very happy to be here. It's really a program that inspires the youth [and] is a way for them to learn vocational skills....I'm very happy to be supportive of this program," he said.

TTT president Gene Weaver simply wished for the students to enjoy themselves, and hoped that everyone would be able to catch a fish. "I hope that everyone catches a fish that they can take back to their family to put on the table... Some of these kids have never been on a boat before, never fished before, so this is the perfect opportunity to [gain experience]," said Weaver.

Tasi to Table is an organization that was formed last year with the intention of teaching students from all of Saipan's high schools the joys of fish-

ing. On Saipan, TTT runs an eight-month program where high school students can par-

ticipate to earn elective credits toward graduation. The organization launched TTT chapters

and four-month pilot programs on Tinian and Rota at the beginning of May this year.

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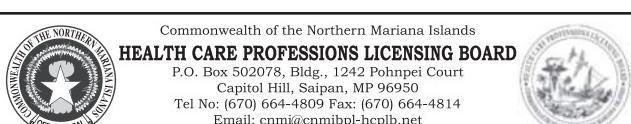
Put fabot baba i tinattiysi na web sites para un atan håfa siha mankutchinu ni masodda' gi hålum i hånom-mu gi duråntin 2020 na såkkan para un ke'tungu' más put i hånom ni un gigimin.

Para Saipan, hånao para <https://www.cucgov.org/spn2020/>

Para Tinian, hånao para <https://www.cucgov.org/tin2020/>

Para Luta, hånao para <https://www.cucgov.org/rota2020/>

Kumu un nisisita i ripot para u matransláda, ya malagu' hão kumuentusi hâyi put i ripot pat malagu' hão kopian pâppit u ma'entrega pat ma-email guatu para hågu, put fabot hågan i CUC gi (670) 664-4282.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814
Email: cnni@cnmibpl-hcplb.net
Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on **Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 8am** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Administration Building, Governor's Conference Room on Capitol Hill.

AGENDA

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (05/19/2021)
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairperson's Report
- VII. Director's Report
 - Update on the 4 proposed regulations
 - Update on the amendment to P.L. 15-105 – Removal of Limited Terms for HCPLB
- VIII. Investigator's Report
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
 - A. Governor's Office
 - B. Legislature
- X. Old Business
 - Peni M. Biukoto
- XI. New Business
- XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review
 - A. New Application
 - Dr. E. Chang – Physician
 - Dr. S. Shushunov – Physician
 - B. Renewal Applications
- XIII. Miscellaneous Business
- XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XV. Announcements
 - A. Next Meeting Date
 - B. Adjournment of Meeting

DFEMS: Pandemic scare leads to more ambulance calls

» DFEMS collections also significantly dropped

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Fire and Medical Services saw an increase in calls for ambulance services due to COVID-19 pandemic fears, according to DFEMS Commissioner Dennis James Mendiola.

Speaking before the House Ways and Means Committee hearing for the DFEMS budget last Thursday, Mendiola said there's been an increase in ambulance response because there are a lot of people who are just "kind of worried and freaked out" when there's a flu in the family.

"They believe it's COVID, so some calls are not really an emergency," he said in response to Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan).

Sablan also asked if DFEMS responds to a lot of complaints about illegal burning, to which Mendiola replied that they have not received many complaints about this. He said there is one that is under investigation, but that he can't really comment on it.

"It might turn out into illegal burning. But other than

that, no, we did not see too much of illegal burning this year," he said.

Sablan then asked about the fire code inspection, noting that DFEMS' collections

from this service has dropped significantly. Mendiola agreed that their collections were impacted significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic because they don't go out and do inspec-

tions anymore. He said they had to shut down a division that deals with fire code inspections.

The commissioner, how-

ever, disclosed that their in-

spectors have been quite busy lately as some businesses are starting to open up and want to renew their fire code permits. This has resulted in DFEMS is starting to get some collec-

tions, he said.

In response to Rep. Sheila Babauta's (D-Saipan) question if DFEMS currently has an academy for fire cadets, Mendiola said they are in the process of starting the academy that includes Tinian and Rota.

Pacific Islands Club Saipan employees and E-Land Group management pose for a photo after doing a beach cleanup last June 9 at Pak Pak Beach.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



E-Land Group execs, PIC employees clean Pak Pak Beach

Pacific Islands Club Saipan employees and E-Land Group management gathered for beach cleanup last June 9 at Pak Pak Beach, which is adjacent to the San Antonio resort.

A total of 34 employees picked up trash along the shore.

According to PIC Saipan general manager Gloria Ca-

vanagh, the beach cleanup has been one of their regular community outreach activities for years.

"This month, we got together for the beach cleanup in line with CNMI Ocean Month initiative," said Cavanagh. "Our employees are always enthusiastic about volunteering. We are proud that we can help prevent the

debris flowing into our beloved ocean."

PIC's sister hotel, Kensington Hotel Saipan, also regularly holds beach cleanup, mostly at Pau Pau Beach, which is the beach near Kensington. In May, 18 employees of Kensington Hotel Saipan teamed up to tidy up the beach.

Pau Pau Beach Park is a site

adopted by E-Land Group as a part of Public Private Partnership Program initiated by Governor's Council of Economic Advisers.

"Marine ecosystem such as corals and fish, which make Saipan's ocean so special, may get affected by the plastic and other non-degradable debris [in the area]. We do beach cleanups not only to help beautify the island, but

also to remind ourselves of the importance of environmental stewardship," said Brian Shin, chief executive office of Micronesia Resort Inc., E-Land's local holding company. "When tourism resumes, we would like to present clean beaches to visitors from outside of the world so that they can appreciate the beauty of Saipan's ocean." (PR)



COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Awee / House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 • Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9700/9800 • Facsimile: (670) 236-9702
Website: www.nmijudiciary.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary – Law Revision Commission is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

PUBLICATIONS CLERK & ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Announcement #JVA21-008
SAIPAN

DUTIES: This position works under the general supervision of Executive Director of Law Revision Commission/General Counsel for the Judicial Branch. The employee in this position is required to perform the following duties and responsibilities.

- Performs a full range of secretarial and administrative support duties for the Executive Director/General Counsel;
- Receives visitors and callers and responds to inquiries and/or directs them to the appropriate authority;
- Performs duties of a highly confidential nature;
- Assists Office Manager in maintaining inventories of supplies, equipment, and publications;
- Creates and maintains various ledgers, spreadsheets, record compilations, and reports related to expenditures, sales, and fund balances;
- Participates in the collection and compilation of fiscal data and assists in maintaining budgetary accounts and financial records for the office;
- Transcribes meeting minutes from written notes and/or audio recordings;
- Coordinates and assists the Executive Director/General Counsel with special projects;
- Adheres to and complies with all promulgated policies, standards, and codes of ethical conduct;
- Assists with the compilation, formatting and printing of electronic files of statutes, judicial decisions, and regulations for publication in print and electronic media by providing administrative support;
- Responds to orders of Commission publications at the office and by packaging, mailing and delivering publications to subscribers, maintaining up-to-date subscribers' list, keeping inventory of publications in stock and maintaining documents re: publications sold;
- Contacts purchasers and potential purchasers regarding LRC products and services;
- Scans, cleans, and converts documents to create searchable PDF files;
- Prepares monthly and annual sales reports and transmits cash and check sales to the Judiciary Cashier, enters credit card sales and other transactions into JD Edwards Accounting System;
- Prepares timesheets;
- Drafts correspondence and other documents when requested;
- Opens office at 8 a.m. on a daily basis, closes office for lunch from 12:00 p.m., opens office at 1:00 p.m. after lunch, and closes office at 5:00 p.m.; time and attendance are critical;
- Maintains office in an organized and presentable manner;
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: The Publications Clerk should possess an associate's degree, a high school diploma, or equivalent plus a minimum of one (1) year work experience in office clerical work.

The Publications Clerk must:

- possess basic computer, word processing, and secretarial skills;
- exhibit a professional attitude, attention to detail, and basic organizational skills;
- have good oral and written communication skills;
- be extremely punctual and have impeccable attendance; and,
- be able to work equally well in collaboration with others and independently.
- possess a valid CNMI driver's license and be able to operate CNMI government vehicles.

Preferred: Legal secretary, website operation, accounting, and/or publication office experience is preferred. College credits and/or business trade school is preferred.

COMPENSATION: This is an ungraded position. The salary range will be \$20,000.00 - \$23,100.00 per annum.

INTERESTED PERSONS: Application forms are available at the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 203 on the second floor, or at the Superior Court offices on Kottenham and Centron Hustisia in Rota during normal business hours except on weekends and holidays. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted on or before Monday, June 24, 2021, 5:00 p.m. (Chamorro Standard Time) to:

NMI Judiciary
Human Resources
Guma' Hustisia/Iimwal Awee/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 236-9818
Cell. (670) 783-8592
Fax. (670) 236-9702
Hr.judiciary@NMJudiciary.com

This job announcement will remain open until 5:00 p.m. (Chamorro Standard Time) June 24, 2021 and can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.nmijudiciary.com>.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.



COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Awee / House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 • Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9700/9800 • Facsimile: (670) 236-9702
Website: www.nmijudiciary.com

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement No. 21-009

POSITION TITLE: Caseworker I
Department: Drug Court Division
Annual Salary Range: \$35,000 - \$40,000
Location: Saipan
Opening Date: 6/14/2021
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 21-010

POSITION TITLE: Program Specialist
Department: Judiciary Administrative Office
Annual Salary Range: \$28,000 - \$30,000
Location: Saipan
Opening Date: 6/14/2021
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 21-011

POSITION TITLE: Deputy Marshal I
Department: Marshal Service Division
Annual Salary Range: \$20,000 - \$22,000
Location: Saipan
Opening Date: 6/14/2021
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 21-012

POSITION TITLE: Deputy Marshal I - Tinian
Department: Marshal Services Division
Annual Salary: \$20,000 - \$22,000
Location: Tinian
Opening Date: 6/14/2021
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 21-013

POSITION TITLE: Deputy Clerk I
Department: Superior Court, Clerk of Court
Annual Salary: \$20,000 - \$22,000
Location: Saipan
Opening Date: 6/14/2021
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 21-014

POSITION TITLE: Administrative Specialist
Department: Superior Court
Annual Salary Range: \$20,485 - \$23,625
Location: Saipan
Opening Date: 6/14/2021
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 21-015

POSITION TITLE: Probation Officer I
Department: Office of Adult Probation
Annual Salary Range: \$24,000 - \$26,000
Location: Saipan
Opening Date: 6/14/2021
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 21-016

POSITION TITLE: Probation Officer I
Department: Office of Adult Probation
Annual Salary Range: \$24,000 - \$26,000
Location: Saipan
Opening Date: 6/14/2021
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 21-017

POSITION TITLE: Assistant Probation Officer
Department: Office of Adult Probation
Annual Salary Range: \$20,000 - \$21,509
Location: Saipan
Opening Date: 6/14/2021
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 21-018

POSITION TITLE: Assistant Probation Officer
Department: Office of Adult Probation
Annual Salary Range: \$20,000 - \$21,509
Location: Saipan
Opening Date: 6/14/2021
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 21-019

POSITION TITLE: Compliance Officer
Department: Drug Court Division
Annual Salary: \$25,000 - \$28,000
Location: Saipan
Opening Date: 6/14/2021
Closing Date: Until Filled

INTERESTED PERSONS: Application forms are available at the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 203 on the second floor, or at the Superior Court offices on Kottenham and Centron Hustisia in Rota during normal business hours except on weekends and holidays. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

NMI Judiciary
Human Resources
Guma' Hustisia/Iimwal Awee/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
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Cell. (670) 783-8592
Fax. (670) 236-9702
Hr.judiciary@NMJudiciary.com

This job announcement will remain open until filled and can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.nmijudiciary.com>.

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Fire at sakman house dysmays Saipan & NI Municipal Council

The 16th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal joins the CNMI community in expressing dismay and sadness over the recent scorching of the "Guma' Higai Sakman," in view of its role as a sacred traditional canoe house located at the traditional Chamorro village of "i Sengsong Katan Uda," referenced as the Supe Civic Center, site of the former Northern Mariana Islands District Legislature.

"The Guma' Higai symbolizes our quincentennial or 500th anniversary of our cultural obligation to both honor our Chamorro ancestors and, through their undying guiding spirits, perpetuate our rich and unique Chamorro heritage as once world prominent master seafaring navigators and voyagers for thousands of years," said SNIMC chair Ana Demapan-Castro on behalf of her colleagues, vice chair Antonia M. Tudela and councilman Danny I. Aquino.

"We share the feeling of loss with the voyagers and volunteers on the painstaking time in planning, investing

both physical and financial, and implementing a revered cultural project aimed at reviving the lost traditional seafaring knowledge about 300 years ago, dating back to 1742 on the sketch of British Military Navy Commander Lord Anson, who made a brief stopover in Tinian for rest and reprovision.

"Taking into consideration all the sweat in the hot and humid environment and sacrifices of countless hours by some of our respected voyagers and volunteers under the stewardship of Master Navigator Tony Piailug and his student, John S. Castro, [this] make this unfathomable damage of the Guma' Higai Sakman even more disheartening," she said.

The council sends its heartfelt thoughts of grief to the voyagers, private and public sector partners, and volunteers for this tragic incident. Furthermore, the council offers its support to restoring the cultural project in collaboration with potential private and community non-profit partners. (PR)

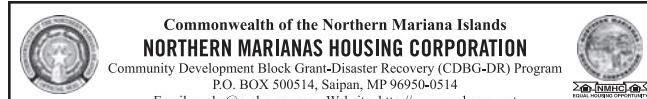
COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Water hours for As Matuis Tank Service Areas

The water service scheduled hours for the As Matuis Tank Service Area will continue as follows until further notice:

- Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 6am — 6pm
- Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday: 24 hours

Saipan Tribune Make it your *DAILY* habit.



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPENING DATE: June 01, 2021 CLOSING DATE: June 16, 2020 TIME: 4:00 P.M.

NMHC JVA No.	Positions:	Salary:
2021-025	CDBG-DR Construction Inspector	UNGRADED \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00
2021-026	CDBG-DR Compliance Specialist	UNGRADED \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be accessed at www.nmhgov.net or www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com.

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; or email application and documents to jimuna@nmhc.gov.mp.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to jimuna@nmhc.gov.mp. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director



UNITED STATES
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
COUNCIL on DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
Developmental Disabilities Basic State Grant Program
Bldg. No. 1312, Capitol Hill • P.O. Box 502565, Saipan, MP 96950-2565
Tel.: (670) 664-7000 • Email: cnmicouncilond@gmail.com



PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities 2022 – 2026 State Plan Goals & Objectives

Each State Developmental Disabilities (DD) Council is required to submit a 5-Year State Plan to the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) outlining the intended use of federal funding allocated for its basic operational grant. State Plans are focused on improving the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities through full inclusion and participation in all aspects of community life. The federal government expects DD Councils to identify goals that can be achieved in five years using available resources. Federal law mandates that the State Plan address some or all the Areas of Emphasis established by Congress in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act).

The Areas of Emphasis are as follow:
Child Care – Community Supports – Early Intervention – Education – Employment – Health Related—Housing—Quality Assurance—Recreation—Transportation

The CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities will be conducting its public hearings on the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota on how best the Council can and should serve all individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. During the public hearings, all persons with developmental disabilities, their families, friends, the general public will be provided the opportunity to review and offer comment or input on its 2022-2026 FIVE YEAR STATE PLAN.

	DATE	TIME	VENUE
ROTA	JUNE 8, 2021	6:00pm – 7:00pm	Pizzaria Restaurant, Songsong
	JUNE 9, 2021	8:00am – 11:00am	Rota Mayor's Office
	JUNE 10, 2021	8:00am – 10:00am	DYS Youth Center, Sinapalo
TINIAN	JUNE 10, 2021	5:30pm – 6:30pm	JC Café Restaurant, San Jose
	JUNE 11, 2021	8:00am – 10:00am	JC Café Restaurant, San Jose
SAIPAN	JUNE 14, 2021	9:00am – 10:00am	Center for Living Independently Anatahan Dr., Guguan Dr, Building#1366, Capitol Hill
		4:30pm – 6:30pm	Charlie's Cabaret, PIC San Antonio
	JUNE 21, 2021	4:30pm – 6:30pm	Caladium Hall, Laolao Bay Golf Resort, Kagman

CNMI CDD's proposed priorities are set forth in our Five-Year State Plan, which is developed based on data gathered from a statewide needs assessment of the most pressing needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and the areas of emphasis that the Council will focus on for the next five years. Strategies may include public policy advocacy, leadership development and collaboration to name a few. Please note that CNMI CDD does not provide direct services.

CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities State Plan for Federal Fiscal Years 2022 – 2026 Goals & Objectives

Goal 1 – Self Advocacy

Promote and support the development of leadership and self advocacy capacity among people with development disabilities.

Objective 1.1 – Self-Advocacy

Provide support to strengthen a State Self-Advocacy organization led by people with developmental disabilities.

Objective 1.2 – Self-Advocacy

Support opportunities for people with developmental disabilities who are considered leaders to provide leadership training to individuals with developmental disabilities who may become leaders.

Objective 1.3 – Self-Advocacy

Support participation of people with developmental disabilities in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.

Goal 2 – Service System Improvement

The Council will work with partners on at least two (2) systems change initiative and provide information, education, and skill building activities each year so that individuals and/or students with intellectual and developmental disabilities will have improved transition services from high school through post-school transition into meaningful post-school outcomes with adequate services and supports and increased opportunities in employment in the CNMI.

Objective 2.1 – Employment

By 2026, create more opportunities for young adults and job seekers with developmental disabilities to have meaningful employment opportunities with competitive wages and exhibit their abilities and skills in an inclusive environment working alongside their peers without disabilities by working with the CNMI Disability Network Partners to educate communities, training staff, and writing one state policy by September 2021 to improve services that support fully integrated, competitive employment.

Objective 2.2 – Transition

By 2026, collaborate with the CNMI Transition Coalition, the CNMI Disability Network Partners and others to create or improve at least one practice designed to improve transition outcomes for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities from high school through postsecondary education/training.

Goal 3 - Respite Care

Family members and/or Caregivers of individuals with developmental disabilities and individuals who are medically fragile will have access to respite services made available through the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs (Commonwealth Respite Services Program) (CNMI PL 20-43).

Objective 3.1 - Respite Care

By 2023, collaborate with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs and partners to improve and/or expand training to thirty (30) respite caregivers in underserved and unserved communities of Tinian and Rota.

Goal 4 - Emergency Preparedness

People with developmental will be afforded the same level of safety as all, be involved in the process to plan, advocate, and take charge for themselves when an emergency arise, and to have a clear idea of what to do in such situation.

Objective 4.1 – Emergency Preparedness

By 2026, collaborate with the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management, CNMI Disability Network Partners, Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation, CNMI CORE and other community-based stakeholders to effectively incorporate the functional and accessibility needs of CNMI residents with developmental disabilities in emergency planning.

Your Input Wanted:

Public review of the Five Year State is required by law and helps us improve the plan. The public review period provides a 45-day window of opportunity for CNMI residents to evaluate the newly developed Goals and Objectives, and to share their comments so we can make improvements. We also welcome your suggestions for strategies and activities to help us achieve these goals and objectives.

The Five Year State Plan will be available at the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities, building #1310, Anatahan Dr., Capitol Hill or you may contact us at (670) 664-7000/3/5 or email to: cnmicouncilond@gmail.com. Other accessible formats of the document are available upon request.

Please submit written comments by email to cnmicouncilond@gmail.com. For each comment, please reference goal number and objective number.

Comment period:

June 9 – July 23, 2021

Comments must be received via email by 4:30 p.m. CHST on July 23, 2021.

Thank you for your input!

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Biden should be better at seeing what's ahead

In 2012, Pew Research asked 1,008 Americans to describe then-Vice President Joe Biden in one word. The responses ranged from "Good," the most common answer, to "Goofy." But almost five months into his tenure, the word that perhaps most accurately describes him as president is "Shortsighted." Time after time, Biden has been caught short by consequences of his policies that should have been obvious.

Biden should have been able to foresee, for instance, that he would face a crisis at the border in his first year in office. There were already stark humanitarian problems in recent years, and after campaigning on a promise to ease his predecessor's immigration policies, and seeing a pandemic create immediate economic needs throughout Central and South America, it should have been clear how this year would unfold. In fact, in April, U.S. Customs and Border Protection logged 178,622 encounters along the border with Mexico, more than anything faced by the Trump administration.

Yet, five months and many lawsuits later, the Biden administration is still trying to figure out how to straighten out the mess. It is clear that the immigration system needs reform, and it should be equally clear this administration needs to lead on this issue.

Biden should have been able to foresee that pulling American troops out of a politically unstable climate in Afghanistan would give purchase to violent Taliban forces. That has happened too, with attacks escalating, locals cowering, vaccines delayed, corruption spreading and, this week, China swooping in as a voice of stability, of all things.

Biden should have been able to foresee that massive government spending and easy-money fiscal policy would lead to inflation. That is starting to happen. The consumer price index rose faster in May than it has since 2008. Officials from the Fed continue to insist that inflation is "transitory," but some economists aren't so sure.

"There is going to be a resurgence of demand," Gargi Chaudhuri, head of iShares investment strategy for the Americas, told Barron's Tuesday. "We're already seeing a pickup in inflation, and there is going to be more of that to come."

In all of these cases, negative outcomes were predictable and Biden's policies failed to anticipate them. Certainly, those policies aren't the only causes here, but they clearly either contributed to these issues or failed to address the problems that would predictably result. More than pandemic recovery or any other issue, the through-line for this administration's first five months has been an inability to see what's ahead.

Biden and his team are smart people. In each of these cases, they have known the risks associated with these moves. But in each case they have pushed forward anyway believing, or simply hoping, that the commonsense outcomes wouldn't come to pass. This administration can and should do better. If it doesn't, the most common word Americans will use to describe it might be "Myopic."



The world's food supply has never been more vulnerable

After a cyberattack crippled the world's largest meat producer last week, JBS SA meat plants have begun to reopen across the globe. But the meat industry shouldn't be returning to business as usual—and for the security of our food supply, the Biden administration needs to make sure that it doesn't.

The JBS subversion, which has been attributed to a Russia-linked cybercriminal group, was the latest in a series of Black Swan events that have crippled large-scale meat producers in recent years. The March 2019 fire in Holcomb, Kansas, destroyed a Tyson Foods plant that processed about 5% of U.S. beef. In April 2020, major hog and chicken processing plants nationwide became COVID-19 hotspots, causing cascading shutdowns that included a Smithfield Foods plant processing more than 15% of all pork in the U.S. Last week's JBS attack sabotaged more than a fifth of all U.S. beef processing in a matter of minutes.

It reminded us of a glaring truth we already knew: Consolidation has made the U.S. meat industry—and the global protein supply—profoundly and unacceptably vulnerable. It will become more susceptible in the years ahead as public health threats and potential cyberattacks continue to loom large, and as climate change increases the risk of natural disasters. Drought, heat, flooding, wildfires, insects, superstorms and weather volatility are raising pressure on our farms and ranches. In short, the cost-saving benefits of agricultural consolidation are increasingly outweighed by the risks of disruption.

Food-industry experts have long been clamoring for systemic "resilience." Last April, as the pandemic bore down on meat producers and before he began his second tour as U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary, Tom Vilsack told me that we're "better off having multiple plants in multiple locations—smaller facilities to produce enough product. And that may mean a little less profit, but it means that if you have an incident like this that threatens your workforce, you'll always have sufficient operational capacity." Vilsack reiterated this sentiment Tuesday in a call with reporters: "Efficiency comes at a price, and that price is a lack of resilience when you have a major disruption."

Activists have made the case in stronger terms: The time has come "for deindustrializing and decentralizing the American food system [and] breaking up the meat oligopoly," wrote environmental author Michael Pollan last May. Philanthropist Chef Jose Andres told me: "The food system centralized in big factories is putting us in danger. Decentralization makes you nimble."

Yet little has been done to decentralize U.S. meat production. The Biden administration, along with state and federal lawmakers, have an urgent obligation not just to incentivize and support

By AMANDA LITTLE

Bloomberg Opinion

Amanda Little is a professor of journalism and science writing at Vanderbilt University. She is the author of a Bloomberg Opinion series on the fate of food after COVID-19 as well as the book *The Fate of Food: What We'll Eat in a Bigger, Hotter, Smarter World*.



smaller and more diversified meat processors and producers, but also to begin dismantling and diversifying American meat monopolies, which have gone unchallenged and unchecked for too long.

Sweeping reforms will take years, but the USDA can begin to mobilize a plan immediately with the \$4 billion allocated for food supply chain resiliency under the American Rescue Plan Act. Tuesday, Vilsack outlined how he intends to spend these funds, and while I applaud his plan to subsidize farmers practicing regenerative agriculture—inherently more resilient than industrial production—he should clarify his goals and timeline, and at least triple the \$60 million in grant money that has been earmarked to help expand smaller-scale meat and poultry processors across the country.

The USDA is conducting a large-scale study on resilient meat and poultry processing that is expected to be published this summer. Vilsack should listen carefully to the small and mid-sized processors and producers to find out what they need to expand their operations while meeting federal food safety standards.

Beyond grant money, smaller producers and processors need other forms of USDA support. Vilsack should continue reforming and refocusing the Food Safety and Inspection Service to better assist small and mid-sized players. He should create dedicated roles at the department to help local processors build regional markets while meeting the standards necessary to sell their products across state lines and become competitive with large meatpackers. Vilsack should also re-empower the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, hollowed out under President Donald Trump, to investigate large meat processors and hold them accountable. Vilsack's USDA should also be coordinating with the Department of Justice for more active enforcement of antitrust laws—and DOJ must assiduously review proposed mergers in the food and agricultural sector.

Industrial Goliaths have accumulated a powerful grip on See WORLD on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Singapore and the United States

Singapore is a city-state located in Southeast Asia on the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula. It is slightly larger than Guam and is an essential ally of the United States on military and economic matters. Singapore is not a mutual defense treaty partner with the United States in the same way that characterizes the bilateral military relationships that America has with Australia, Japan, the Philippines, and South Korea.

Singapore's value to the United States lies with its unique geographical location near key international ocean shipping lanes, its proximity to China, and its massive trade and multi-billion-dollar direct investment relationship with America.

Vice and Virtue Sonnets: Industry and Sloth, a little on both

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey aka "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired educator who taught in the CNMI, NOLA, and LVNV. He is a sonnet practitioner who enjoys stargazing.

The Ace Card: Work Hard Play Hard

"Lose no time; be always employed in something useful; cut off all unnecessary actions."

—B. Franklin

My friend Richard Murphy knew some great aphorisms one he often used to use was, "the steady man gets it." Ozark farmers used to quote from a hillbilly catechism "got dried up food, there's plenty water get it and wet it" folk sayings and songs about work circle the earth: by the sweat of his brow with blistered hands & feet aching muscles, some sang of joy some about mirth countries, cities, villages, farms and homes were built digging sawing pounding shoveling for money's worth and lots of real blood, sweat and tears was often spilt calloused palms disliked being called a working slob proud fisher, farmer, carpenter or pick and shovel job when it comes to work on the job or in the backyard always play your Ace card: Work Hard and Play Hard.

Lazybones, Sleepin in the Sun

"Ever idle hours breed wandering thoughts"

—from Lucan, Roman poet (39 A.D. to 65 A.D.)

"Lazybones sleepin in the sun how you gonna get your workdays done..." Hoagy Carmichael nailed the sloth question a few blows with his hit song back in the 1930's. The word sloth is not used as much these days as it was back in Benjamin Franklin's day. But the Protestant 'Work Ethic' has persevered through to the 21st century. I've always liked the wise old saying, "idle hands are the devil's playground" which has been traced back to Chaucer's Canterbury Tales there is nothing wrong with taking a break, a nap a siesta, or a day off when common sense prevails and logic is your cornerstone a laptop is on your lap you lose arguments with your boss if all else fails you're exhausted and time off is what your wishing hang out a sign or send an email: Gone Fishing!

WORLD

From Page 8

global agriculture: In the U.S. alone, four processing companies slaughter more than 80% of the beef; four meatpacking companies process roughly two thirds of the nation's hogs; and five companies control about 60% of the broiler chicken market.

What the United States has with Singapore is an access-based contract, known as the Strategic Framework Agreement. Singapore has basically given the Pentagon permission over the past several years to access its territory to conduct intelligence surveillance aircraft flights on Chinese activity, engage in spy missions initiated out of Japan and the Philippines, support American efforts to conduct cyber-warfare, counter piracy, and enable aircraft carrier and military surface vessel deployments to port call in-country.

As is the case with Japan, South Korea and Australia, Singapore is a major purchaser of American-made military weapons to the tune of close to \$40 billion. Singapore has somehow been able to avert being a major weapons purchaser of Chinese and Russian arms.

Yet Singapore is a major trading partner with China and has approximately 20 free trade agreements with other nations. As a result, Singapore has been able to balance its relationships with both China and the United States that has not been fully duplicated elsewhere.

Navy talking points

As is the case with both Guam and the Northern Marianas Islands, the United States Navy maintains a presence in Singapore. What is different, however, is the Navy engages in major surface military vessel and aircraft movement coordination out of Singapore from Changi Naval Base. Reciprocity is seen with Singapore military personnel supporting select American military operations worldwide.

Singapore is also home of the major Navy scandal that took place involving Malaysian businessman Leonard Glenn Francis, also known as "Fat Leonard."

Fat Leonard was able to overcharge the U.S. government tens of millions of dollars on Navy contracts, compromising classified vessel port visit information, competitive bid processes and contract pricing. Fat Leonard contracts involved providing the Navy with tugboat services, management of port authority and customs fees, provisions of food, fuel, trash and waste removal, and transportation.

Several naval officers representing a host of different functional communities were bribed and indicted, and roughly 10% of all admirals were questioned on their knowledge of Fat Leonard.

Fat Leonard sponsored parties for Navy leaders involving carousels of prostitutes, dinners costing thousands of dollars, and gifts such as cash, premium cigars, alcohol, champagne, spa treatments, watches, and hotel stays. The outcome of this debacle has yet to be fully adjudicated and several sailors have gone to prison.

What U.S.-Singapore relations mean for the Marianas archipelago and how Pacific Island leaders may benefit

Our Chamorro people should anticipate seeing more Singa-

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

COVID-19 vaccination as a tourist attraction

In a recent news article it was announced that Guam is offering COVID vaccination as a tourist attraction. To quote: "The packages are going to include the different vaccines, the hotel with the seven-day quarantine, secure transportation from the airport to their quarantine hotel of choice, two PCR tests... also will receive vaccination documents, including the secondary vaccination verification provided by Public Health."

In my opinion, Saipan has the capacity to offer the same COVID-19 vaccination travel package as Guam. We have the COVID-19 vaccine, we have the quarantine facilities at Kanoa and Mariana Resort. We have the COVID-19 testing here and

The vertical integration of livestock and poultry supply chains, with the same companies producing animals and slaughtering, has stifled competition and led to widespread price-fixing and corruption.

The Biden administration and Congress must clarify and strengthen antitrust laws so that they more clearly apply to large-scale food production. And the president should continue to appoint people within the USDA and the DOJ who are

RICK'S COLUMN

By RICK PEREZ

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Rick Perez used to serve in the U.S. military and has work experiences in public policy research and public affairs. He is passionate about national security and geopolitics and runs a newsletter called *Guam Affairs* at guamaffairs.substack.com. For questions or comments, contact Perez at rickp7839@gmail.com.

porean troops training on a bilateral and multilateral basis with American and allied forces in Guam and throughout the Northern Mariana Islands.

Guam is now the location of the fourth named advanced fighter jet training detachment, representing an unusual arrangement between the United States and Singapore.

Our people might be able to find new and creative ways to further expand relations with Singapore and the U.S. on matters of non-military significance such as port security.

Singapore is one of the world's busiest ports, seeing cargo volume equivalent in value to several times the gross domestic product of this city-state. Singapore thrives on being a free-market economy created from having a highly educated workforce, cutting edge technology and communications infrastructure, and the need to maximize global sea-based trade based on the island's location.

Singapore is also a key contributor to the U.S.-led Container Security Initiative. This arrangement enables both nations the opportunity to work closely on preventing acts of terror, stemming the proliferation of illegal drugs, and growing cyber-defense collaborations.

What is instructive about Singapore for our people is how this tiny place has been able to become a major world exporter of highly sought-after technology componentry, oil, and medical equipment resources.

Additionally, Singapore provides one template for anti-corruption and property rights law that might be instructive to our people as one comparative point of reference.

Lastly, our people are also incentivized to better understand how Singapore and Taiwan engage in matters of mutual interest and how Singapore has been able to influence the broad geopolitical landscape shaped by Chinese and American behaviors.

Learning about the differences and the similarities that the Mariana Islands has with Singapore, will enable our people to collectively see how global geography, economics, and military overseas contingencies operations coalesce and convert into power politics, economic prosperity, and global influence.

we have the COVID-19 vaccination cards and associated documents available for issue.

According to the news article, the Guam governor made a direct request to President Biden for more COVID-19 vaccines for use in the Guam COVID travel package. If Guam can make this request, Saipan can make this request as well.

As everyone knows, the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance could end around Sept. 6. In my opinion, it is important to get the tourism economy restarted before the PUA runs out.

Philip Dauterman, MD

via email

willing to challenge the interests of industrial operators—a stance that's long been politically unfavorable for politicians in both parties.

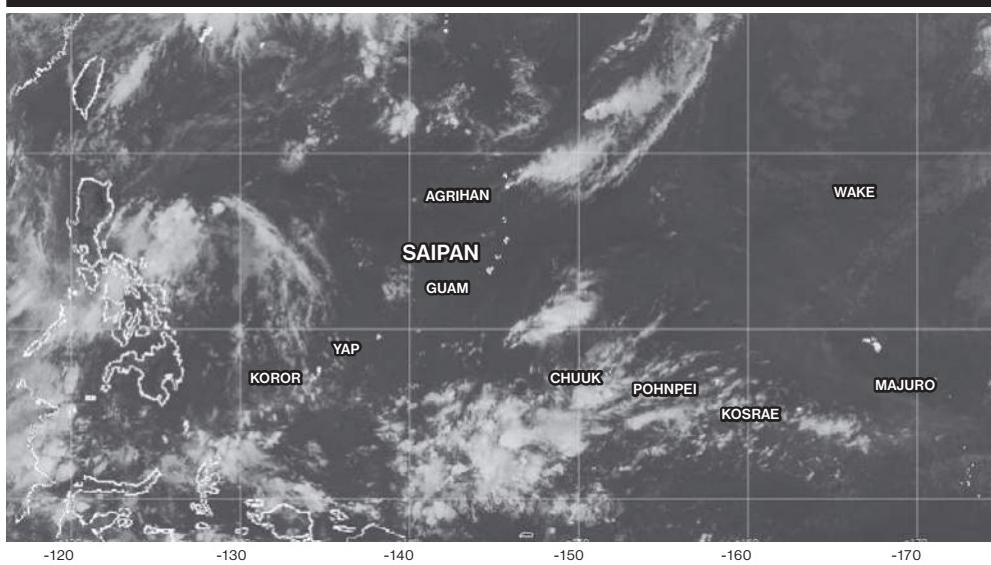
Not since Upton Sinclair's eye-opening novel "The Jungle" has the American meat industry faced a more significant paradigm shift, and Biden and Congress must get out in front of it. If they don't, the U.S.—and the world—won't be able to maintain a reliable protein supply in an era defined by disruption.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
89°	78°	89°	78°	88°
88°	78°	88°	78°	88°
88°	78°	88°	78°	88°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:20 AM, SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Weather remains quiet across the Marianas with gentle trade winds and combined seas between 2 and 3 feet. Satellite shows isolated showers mainly near and west of the islands, some with tops over 30,000 feet. Upper-level lows are still evident in loops of sat imagery east and west of the islands. MIMIC satellite images show precipitable water values over 2 inches near the islands, but PW dries out to near 1.7 inches east of the islands.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

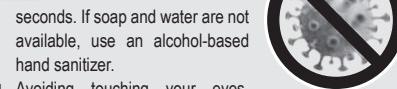
- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>.
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
- Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
- Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20



seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

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MICRONESIA		
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	88 80 °F
Palau	Thunderstorms	84 77 °F
Yap	Thunderstorms	87 74 °F
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86 81 °F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85 80 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86 80 °F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85 81 °F

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:45 AM	6:47 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:48 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:48 PM
Thursday	5:47 AM	6:48 PM
Friday	5:47 AM	6:48 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	8:42 AM	10:01 PM	-
Tuesday	9:36 AM	10:47 PM	-
Wednesday	10:31 AM	11:30 PM	-
Thursday	11:25 AM	-	-
Friday	-	12:11 AM	12:19 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE		
Auckland	Mostly sunny	56 45 °F
Beijing	Rain	86 76 °F
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	84 80 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	84 72 °F
London	Mostly sunny	64 50 °F
Los Angeles	Mostly sunny	77 62 °F
Manila	Thunderstorms	88 78 °F
Melbourne	Partly cloudy	57 44 °F
Miami	Thunderstorms	87 79 °F
New York	Rain	70 59 °F
Osaka	Partly cloudy	75 59 °F
Paris	Partly cloudy	67 52 °F
Pusan	Partly cloudy	82 59 °F
Rome	Rain	79 62 °F
Salem	Sunny	70 47 °F
San Francisco	Sunny	69 53 °F
Seoul	Partly cloudy	85 63 °F
Tokyo	Sunny	74 62 °F
Washington, DC	Partly cloudy	80 63 °F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
4:37 AM	High Tide	1.50
8:47 AM	Low Tide	1.86
4:24 PM	High Tide	-0.05
11:56 PM	Low Tide	2.00

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 20, 2021

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS							
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN							
UA117 6:30am 7:10am 1, 3, 5, 6,				UA174 4:50am 5:31am 1, 3, 5, 6,							
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				UA184/174 9:50pm 5:31am+1 5 via Guam							
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				UA184 9:50pm 3:45am+1 5							
UA183 7:05pm 8:50pm 5				UA184 10:25pm 4:10am+1 1, 3							
UA183 7:15pm 9:10pm 1, 3,				LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)							
STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.											
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021											
SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTAN TO SAIPAN							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #							

Business

Winning auction bid to fly in space with Jeff Bezos: \$28M

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—An auction for a ride into space next month alongside Jeff Bezos and his brother ended with a winning \$28 million bid Saturday.

The Amazon founder's rocket company, Blue Origin, did not disclose the winner's name following the live online auction. The identity will be revealed in a couple weeks—closer to the brief up-and-down flight from West Texas on July 20, the 52nd anniversary of Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin's moon landing.

It will be the first launch of Blue Origin's New Shepard rocket with people on board, kicking off the company's space tourism business. Fifteen previous test flights of the reusable rocket and capsule since 2015—short hops lasting about 10 minutes—were all successful.

Saturday's auction followed more than a month of online bidding that reached \$4.8 million by Friday. More than

7,500 people from 159 countries registered to bid, according to Blue Origin. More than 20 bidders—the high rollers—took part in Saturday's auction.

Bezos announced Monday that he and his younger

brother, Mark, would be on board New Shepard's first crew flight; the news quickly boosted bidding. The winning amount is being donated to Blue Origin's Club for the Future, an educational effort

to promote science and tech among young people.

The completely automated capsule can carry up to six passengers, each with their own big window. Blue Origin's top sales director, Ariane Cornell,

said following the auction that the fourth and final seat on the debut crew flight will be announced soon.

Blue Origin has yet to open ticket sales to the public or divulge prices.

G-7 pledge to share, but jostle for ground in the sandbox

CARBIS BAY, England

(AP)—Group of Seven leaders brought pledges to share vaccine doses and make a fairer global economy Friday to a seaside summit in England, where British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said the coronavirus pandemic should not be allowed to leave a "lasting scar" on the world.

The wealthy nations' leaders were all smiles and unity as Johnson greeted them on the freshly raked sand of Carbis Bay, but they jostled over who was doing most to help the world's poorer nations fight COVID-19.

Recovery from the pandemic was set to dominate their

discussions, and members of the wealthy democracies club committed to sharing at least 1 billion vaccine shots with struggling countries. That includes a pledge from U.S. President Joe Biden to share 500 million doses, and a promise from Johnson for another 100 million shots.

Host Britain said the G-7 will also announce a package of measures aimed at reducing the chances of another pandemic. The U.K. government said the grandly titled "Carbis Bay Declaration" will aim for a 100-day goal to develop vaccines, treatments and diagnostics for future disease and to bolster surveillance for new illnesses.

The group will also pledge to strengthen the World Health Organization, which former President Donald Trump pulled out of and Biden rejoined.

Johnson said the goal of the measures was "to make sure that never again will we be caught unawares."

Opening three days of talks in Cornwall, southwest England, Johnson warned that world leaders must not repeat errors made over the past 18 months—or those made in the recovery from the 2008 global financial crisis.

"It is vital that we don't repeat the mistake of the last great crisis, the last great economic recession in 2008,

when the recovery was not uniform across all parts of society," he said after leaders posed for a formal "family photo" by the sea.

"And I think what's gone wrong with this pandemic, and what risks being a lasting scar, is that I think the inequalities may be entrenched," Johnson added.

The leaders of the G-7—which also includes the United States Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan—hope the meeting at the resort will also energize the global economy. Beneath moody dark skies, the group walked away from the photo as cheerful as children who had just built a sand castle.

Travel rebound: 2 million people go through US airports

DALLAS (AP)—The airline industry's recovery from the pandemic passed a milestone as more than 2 million people streamed through U.S. airport security checkpoints on Friday for the first time since early March 2020.

The Transportation Security Administration announced Saturday that 2.03 million travelers were screened at airport checkpoints on Friday. It was the first time in 15 months that the number of security screenings has surpassed 2 million in a single day.

Airline bookings have been picking up since around February, as more Americans were vaccinated against COVID-19 and—at least within the United States—travel restrictions such as mandatory quarantines began to ease.

The recovery is not complete. Friday's crowds were only 74% of the volume compared to the same day in 2019. However, the 2.03 million figure was 1.5 million more travelers than the same day last year, according to the TSA.

The 2-million mark represents quite a turnaround for the travel industry, which was hammered by the pandemic. There were days in April 2020 when fewer than 100,000 people boarded planes in the U.S., and the CEO of Boeing predicted that at least one major U.S. airline would go bankrupt.

Most of the airlines are still losing money. Southwest eked out a narrow first-quarter profit thanks to its share of \$64 bil-



In this May 28, 2021 file photo, travelers wait for their luggage at a baggage carousel at Miami International Airport in Miami.

lion in federal pandemic relief to the industry, and others are expected to follow suit later this year.

The fear of large-scale furloughs has lifted. United Airlines, which lost \$7 billion and threatened to furlough 13,000 workers last fall, told employees this week that their jobs are secure even when the federal money runs out in October.

That's because airlines like United are upbeat about salvaging the peak summer vacation season. International travel and business trips are still deeply depressed, but domestic leisure travel is roughly back to pre-pandemic levels, airline officials say.

The airlines are recalling

employees from voluntary leave and planning to hire small numbers of pilots and other workers later this year.

Hotel operators say they too have seen bookings improve as vaccination rates rise.

Mike Gathright, a senior vice president at Hilton, said the company's hotels were

93% full over the Memorial Day weekend. He said the company is "very optimistic" about leisure travel over the summer and a pickup in business travel this fall.

"The vaccine distribution, the relaxed travel restrictions, consumer confidence—all of that is driving occupancy and improvement in our business," Gathright said.

Prior to the pandemic, TSA screened on average 2 million to 2.5 million travelers per day. The lowest screening volume during the pandemic was on April 13, 2020, when just 87,534 individuals were screened at airport security checkpoints.

By the middle of last month, TSA's average daily volume for screenings was approximately 65% of pre-pandemic levels.

As the summer travel season approaches, TSA is advising passengers to arrive at the airport with sufficient time to accommodate increased screening time as traveler volumes are expected to approach and in some cases exceed pre-pandemic levels at certain airports.

United to invest in budding travel-related companies

CHICAGO—United Airlines has launched a new, corporate venture fund called United Airlines Ventures that will allow the airline to continue investing in emerging companies that have the potential to influence the future of travel.



Leskinen

designed to revolutionize the customer experience and redefine how airlines operate.

Through United Airlines Ventures, United will continue to forge a new path by accelerating the growth of small- to medium-sized companies with strong potential.

United's current vice president of Corporate Development and Investor Relations, Michael Leskinen, will assume the role of president of United Airlines Ventures in addition to his current responsibilities.

"United has always been a pioneer within the industry and United Airlines Ventures will help us grow companies that are pushing the envelope to make air travel better for our customers, our employees and our planet," said Leskinen. "We're making more than a financial commitment to companies within this new portfolio; we're lending our expertise so that new ideas can really take off."

United continues to be a leader in the adoption of new sustainable aviation technologies and innovations. Last week, the company announced its agreement to purchase 15 of Boom Supersonic's 'Overture' aircraft with an option for an additional 35 airliners. Once in service, Overture will not only re-introduce supersonic commercial flight, it is expected to be the first long-haul commercial aircraft to be net zero carbon from day one optimized to run on 100% sustainable aviation fuel.

For more information about United Airlines Ventures, visit <https://www.united.com/ventures>. (PR)

Nation

Biden urges G-7 leaders to call out and compete with China

CARBIS BAY, England (AP)—Leaders of the world's largest economies unveiled an infrastructure plan Saturday for the developing world to compete with China's global initiatives, but they were searching for a consensus on how to forcefully to call out Beijing over human rights abuses.

Citing China for its forced labor practices is part of President Joe Biden's campaign to persuade fellow democratic leaders to present a more unified front to compete economically with Beijing. But while they agreed to work toward competing against China, there was less unity on how adversarial a public position the group should take.

Canada, the United Kingdom and France largely endorsed Biden's position, while Germany, Italy and the European Union showed more hesitancy during Saturday's first session of the Group of Seven summit, according to



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson, center, with from left, Italy's Prime Minister Mario Draghi, Australia's Prime Minister Scott Morrison, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa, South Korea's President Moon Jae-in, US President Joe Biden, French President Emmanuel Macron, Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga and President of the European Council Charles Michel during the G7 summit in Cornwall, England, Saturday June 12, 2021.

LEON NEAL/POOL VIA AP

two senior Biden administration officials. The officials who briefed reporters were not authorized to publicly discuss the private meeting and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The communique that sum-

marizes the meeting's commitments was being written and the contents would not be clear until it was released when the summit ended Sunday. White House officials said late Saturday that they

believed that China, in some form, could be called out for "nonmarket policies and human rights abuses."

In his first summit as president, Biden made a point of carving out one-on-one-time

Rash of mass shootings stirs US fears heading into summer

CHICAGO (AP)—Two people were killed and at least 30 others wounded in mass shootings overnight in three states, authorities said Saturday, stoking concerns that a spike in U.S. gun violence could continue into summer as coronavirus restrictions ease and more people are free to socialize.

The attacks took place late Friday or early Saturday in the Texas capital of Austin, Chicago and Savannah, Georgia.

In Austin, authorities said they arrested one of two male suspects and were searching for the other after a shooting early Saturday on a crowded pedestrian-only street packed

with bars and restaurants. Fourteen people were wounded, including two critically, in the gunfire, which the city's interim police chief said is believed to have started as a dispute between two parties.

No arrests were reported by late Saturday in the two other shootings.

In Chicago, a woman was killed and nine other people were wounded when two men opened fire on a group standing on a sidewalk in the Chatham neighborhood on the city's South Side. The shooters also got away and hadn't been identified by mid-afternoon Saturday.

In the south Georgia city

of Savannah, police said one man was killed and seven other people were wounded in a mass shooting Friday evening, police said. Two of the wounded are children—an 18-month-old and a 13-year-old.

Savannah's police chief, Roy Minter, Jr., said the shooting may be linked to an ongoing dispute between two groups, citing reports of gunshots being fired at the same apartment complex earlier in the week.

"It's very disturbing what we're seeing across the country and the level of gun violence that we're seeing across the country," he told reporters

Saturday. "It's disturbing and it's senseless."

The attacks come amid an easing of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions in much of the country, including Chicago, which lifted many of its remaining safeguards on Friday. Many hoped that a spike in U.S. shootings and homicides last year was an aberration perhaps caused by pandemic-related stress amid a rise in gun ownership and debate over policing. But those rates are still higher than they were in pre-pandemic times, including in cities that refused to slash police spending following the death of George Floyd and those that made modest cuts.

enormous sense of shame, he said, the voices in his head made him believe he had to kill his parents and then return to school to "kill everybody."

He killed his parents the next day, and the day after that he opened fire in the school cafeteria, killing 16-year-old Ben Walker and 17-year-old Mikael Nicklauson and injuring 25 before being subdued by other students.

He pleaded guilty—at the time, he did not want to accept his diagnosis and felt community pressure to resolve the case rather than plead not guilty by reason of insanity. He was sentenced to nearly 112 years after apologizing profusely.

1998 Oregon school shooter: 'tremendous shame and guilt'

SALEM, Ore. (AP)—Kip Kinkel, who killed his parents before going on a shooting rampage at his Oregon high school in 1998, killing two classmates and injuring 25 more, has given his first news interview, telling HuffPost he feels "tremendous, tremendous shame and guilt."

Kinkel, now 38, is serving a de facto life sentence at the Oregon State Correctional Institution. He spoke with the news site by phone for about 20 hours over 10 months.

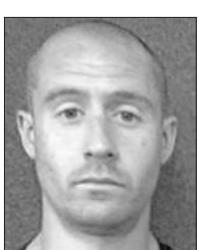
He said he felt guilty not just for what he did as a 15-year-old suffering from then-undiagnosed paranoid schizophrenia, but the effect his crime has had on other juvenile offenders sentenced to

life terms: His case has been held up by some of his victims and by others as a reason to oppose juvenile justice reform in the state.

While he has not previously given interviews because he did not want to further traumatize his victims, he said, he also began to feel that his silence was preventing those offenders from getting a second chance.

"I have responsibility for the harm that I caused when I was 15," Kinkel said. "But I also have responsibility for the harm that I am causing now as I'm 38 because of what I did at 15."

Kinkel described how he had



Kinkel

been hearing voices since age 12 and how he became obsessed with knives, guns and explosives, believing China was going to invade the U.S. and that the government and the Walt Disney Co. had implanted a microchip in his head.

When he was caught at Thurston High School in Springfield with a stolen handgun he bought from another student on May 19, 1998, "My whole world blew up," he said. "All the feelings of safety and security—of being able to take control over a threat—disappeared."

Facing expulsion, a possible felony charge and an

with various leaders, bouncing from French president Emmanuel Macron to German chancellor Angela Merkel to Italian prime minister Mario Draghi as well as Japan's Yoshihide Suga and Australia's Scott Morrison, a day after meeting with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson as if to personally try to ward off memories of the chaos that his predecessor would often bring

to these gatherings.

Macron told Biden that collaboration was needed on a range of issues and told the American president that "it's great to have a U.S. president part of the club and very willing to cooperate." Relations between the allies had become strained during the four years of Donald Trump's presidency and his "America first" foreign policy.

ACROSS THE NATION

Chicago man jumps into Lake Michigan for 365th straight day

CHICAGO (AP)—A Chicago bus driver looking for a way to relieve stress during the coronavirus pandemic jumped into Lake Michigan for a 365th straight day on Saturday. Dan O'Conor said he started jumping into the lake at Montrose Harbor on the city's North Side last year to relieve stress. "It was during the pandemic, it was during the protest, it was during an election year. ... So it was somewhere where I could come down here and block all that noise out and kind of be totally present with me in the lake, and find some moments of Zen," said the father of three. He continued jumping into the lake through the fall before the hard part: Hacking a hole in the ice on the frozen lake that was big enough for him to jump through during the winter.

He said when he got home after one such jump, he found about 20 scrapes and cuts on his body. He was encouraged by the response he got for his undertaking. "People started asking me what this was benefiting and how they could support—and when I say people, I'm talking strangers online, you know. When I started posting the videos on Twitter and Instagram ... I got more wind in my sails there because people started commenting like, 'This makes my day, it's nice to see this,'" he said.

Police arrest 1 of 2 in Austin mass shooting that wounded 14

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Police have arrested one suspect and are searching for another after a mass shooting on a crowded downtown Austin street left 14 people wounded early Saturday, two of them critically. The Austin Police Department said in a news release that the U.S. Marshals Lone Star Fugitive Task Force assisted

in making the arrest, but it provided no other details other than to say it is continuing to follow up on leads for the suspect still at large. Interim Police Chief Joseph Chacon said the shooting happened around 1:30 a.m. on a street packed with bars and barricaded off from vehicle traffic. He said investigators believe it began as a dispute between two parties. Chacon said both suspects are male, but declined to disclose details such as whether both fired shots, saying the investigation was ongoing. "Most of the victims were innocent bystanders, but we're still sorting out all of the victims to see what their involvement is in this case," Chacon said.

Biden to name Pulse Nightclub a national memorial

President Joe Biden said on the fifth anniversary of a mass shooting at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida, that he will sign a bill naming the site as a national memorial. The deadliest attack on the LGBTQ community in U.S. history left 49 people dead and 53 people wounded as "Latin Night" was being celebrated at the club. Biden said in a statement Saturday that he has "stayed in touch with families of the victims and with the survivors who have turned their pain into purpose" and described the club as "hallowed ground." The president emphasized that the country must do more to reduce gun violence, such as banning assault weapons and closing loopholes in regulations that enable gun buyers to bypass background checks. Biden said the nation must acknowledge that gun violence has hurt members of the LGBTQ community. "We must drive out hate and inequities that contribute to the epidemic of violence and murder against transgender women—especially transgender women of color," Biden said. (AP)

World

Israel to swear in govt, ending Netanyahu's long rule

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel is set to swear in a new government on Sunday that will send Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu into the opposition after a record 12 years in office and a political crisis that sparked four elections in two years.

Naftali Bennett, the head of a small ultranationalist party, will take over as prime minister. But if he wants to keep

the job, he will have to maintain an unwieldy coalition of parties from the political right, left, and center.

The eight parties, including a small Arab faction that is making history by sitting in the ruling coalition, are united in their opposition to Netanyahu.



Netanyahu

hu and new elections but agree on little else. They are likely to

pursue a modest agenda that seeks to reduce tensions with

the Palestinians and maintain good relations with the U.S.

without launching any major initiatives.

Netanyahu, who is on trial for corruption, remains the head of the largest party in parliament and is expected to

vigorously oppose the new government. If just one faction bolts, it could lose its majority and would be at risk of collapse, giving him an opening to return to power.

At least 6 injured in cargo ship fire at Manila wharf

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A fire and a powerful blast ripped through a small cargo ship docked to refuel in the Philippine capital of Manila on Saturday, injuring at least six people and igniting a blaze in a nearby riverside slum that gutted dozens of shanties, officials said.

It was not immediately clear what triggered the fire, which raged for about seven hours aboard the MV Titan 8 and forced its crew to jump in panic into the Pasig River. At least two crewmen who were on the vessel remained unaccounted for, officials said.

The vessel, which was carrying fuel drums, had docked at a wharf in Manila's Tondo slum district to refuel prior

to a domestic trip to the western Palawan province. Explosions rocked the vessel in the mid-morning followed by a fire, injuring crewmembers from the Titan and another vessel docked at the wharf, the coast guard said, citing witnesses.

In this photo provided by the Philippine Coast Guard, members of the Philippine Coast Guard try to extinguish flames on a burning cargo ship docked in Manila, Philippines, Saturday, June 12, 2021.



ASIAN BRIEFS

Afghan official: bombs hit 2 minivans in Kabul, 7 dead

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Separate bombs hit two minivans in a mostly Shiite neighborhood in the Afghan capital Saturday, killing at least seven people and wounding six others, the Interior Ministry said. The attacks targeted minivans on the same road about 2 kilometers (1.25 miles) apart in a neighborhood in western Kabul, Interior Ministry deputy spokesman Ahmad Zia Zia, said. It wasn't immediately clear what type of bombs were used and no one immediately claimed responsibility for the attacks.

Gas explosion in northern China kills at least 12

BEIJING (AP)—At least 12 people were killed and 39 seriously injured Sunday after a gas line explosion tore through a residential neighborhood in central China. Responders to the early morning blast in the Hubei province city of Shiyan sent more than 150 people to hospital, according to a statement on the city's official social media channel. The statement said rescue efforts were continuing but gave no word on the cause of the explosion. Stall keepers and customers buying breakfast and fresh vegetables at a food market were the major victims when the explosion hit shortly after 6 a.m., according to state media reports. Images showed rescuers climbing over broken

concrete slabs to reach those trapped inside. The blast appeared similar to one that occurred in the northeastern port of Qingdao in 2013, in which 55 people were killed when underground pipelines ripped open following a leak.

Evidence in Mexico serial killer's house suggests 17 victims

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Investigators digging under the house of a suspected serial killer on the outskirts of Mexico City said Saturday they have found 3,787 bone fragments so far, apparently belonging to 17 different victims. Prosecutors in the State of Mexico, which borders Mexico City, suggested the grisly finds may not end there. In excavations carried out since May 17, authorities have dug up the floors of the house where the suspect lived. They now plan to extend the search to the soil beneath several other rooms he rented out on the same property. ID cards and other possessions from people who disappeared years ago were found at the junk-filled home, suggesting the trail of killings may go back years. The number of bone fragments found underneath concrete floors at the suspect's home would imply the corpses may have been hacked into tiny pieces. That could make sense: the suspect, identified by prosecutors only as "Andrés," was formerly a butcher and in fact sectioned and filleted his last victim.

In Loving Memory of

Richard Francis Waldo

April 23, 1943 - June 10, 2021

"YOUR LIGHT WILL SHINE FOREVER"

Richard will now join his parents: Mary and Cornelius Waldo
Brothers: Jerry and Danny Waldo

Richard's loving memories will forever remain in the hearts of his:

Loving wife: Ednalyn Waldo

Children: Maria Elizabeth Waldo, Richard Waldo Jr.,
Joy Anna Marie Waldo, and
Joshua Allen Mark Waldo

Nieces and Nephews: Julia Angeles, Travis & Trevor Bocago
Erykah Angeles, Diego Angeles, and Faye Angeles

Mother-in-law: Violeta Angeles

In-laws: Emmanuel S. Angeles, Elaine A. Bocago,
Eric S. Angeles, Peter John Bocago, Yrine Angeles

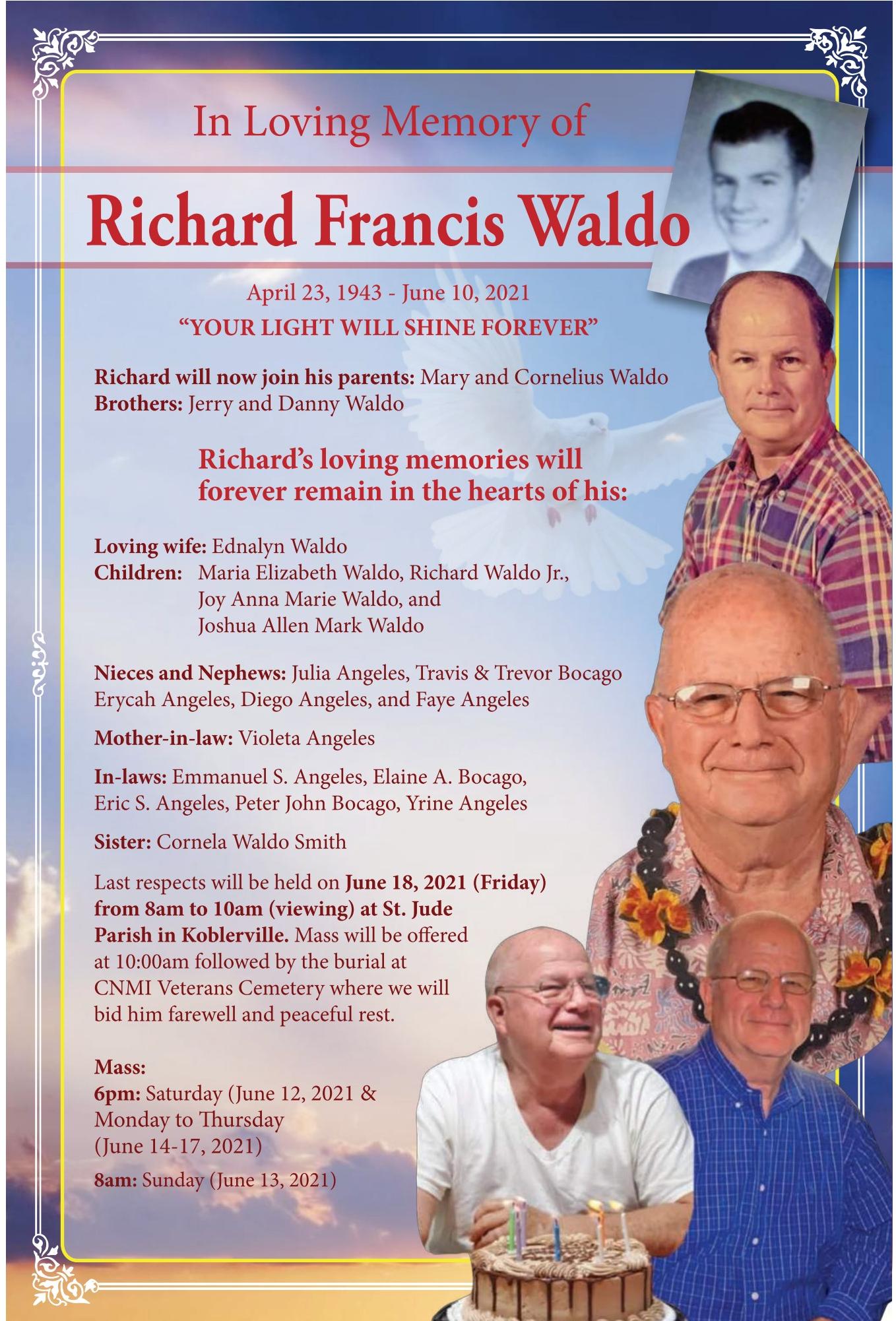
Sister: Cornelia Waldo Smith

Last respects will be held on **June 18, 2021 (Friday)**
from 8am to 10am (viewing) at St. Jude
Parish in Kobilerville. Mass will be offered
at 10:00am followed by the burial at
CNMI Veterans Cemetery where we will
bid him farewell and peaceful rest.

Mass:

6pm: Saturday (June 12, 2021 &
Monday to Thursday
(June 14-17, 2021)

8am: Sunday (June 13, 2021)



Health & Wellness

This advertorial
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Tan Siu Lin
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MAYO CLINIC Q AND A

Top tips for reducing heart attack and stroke risk

DEAR MAYO CLINIC: My sister just turned 50. She went in for a standard cardiac checkup and learned she has high blood pressure and high cholesterol. The doctor told her that since our mom also had these issues, she must drastically change her diet, increase her exercise, and take medications to lessen her risk for a heart attack or stroke. I'm only 34 and have never had an issue, but I'm wondering if there are things I should be doing now to stay more heart-healthy.

ANSWER: Heart disease remains the No. 1 cause of death in the U.S., with over 655,000 people dying annually, according to the American Heart Association. And heart disease kills more women annually than breast cancer.

Since genetics play a role in the risk for heart disease, being aware of your health history is important. But just because your mom and sister are dealing with issues doesn't mean you will automatically have cardiac problems. You can be proud of yourself for being proactive to reduce your risk long term.

Given your family history, I recommend that you reach out to your health care provider and share an update about your mom and sister. Your health care provider may suggest that you have regular follow-up visits based on your family history.

In the meantime, I always share with my patients my top five recommendations for how to keep their heart—and bodies—in shape:

Know your numbers

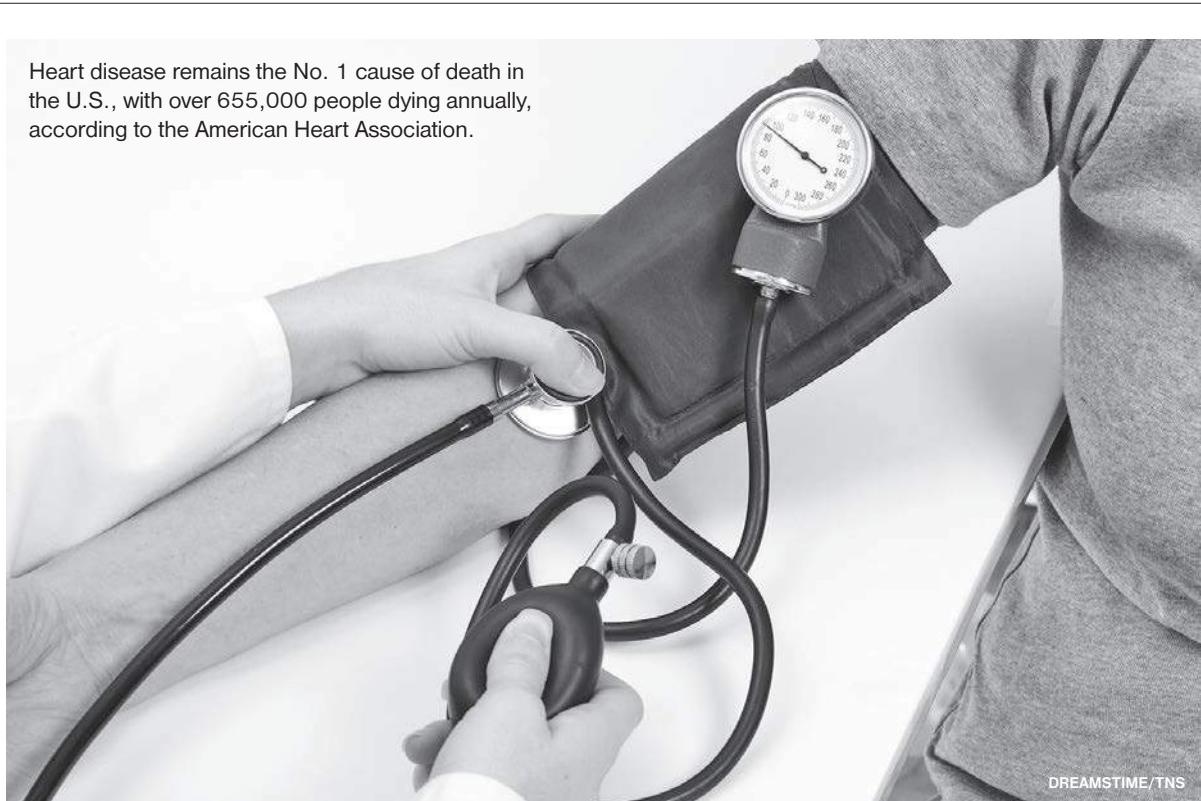
Aiming to maintain a healthy weight is important, but it also is important to be aware of other numbers, especially your blood pressure and cholesterol.

The biggest challenge is that there are generally no symptoms associated with high blood pressure, also known as hypertension, which is why it's often called the silent killer. Having high blood pressure long term can cause many serious health problems, such as heart disease and stroke, so it's vital to keep blood pressure numbers down.

High blood pressure is determined by the amount of blood your heart pumps and the amount of resistance to blood flow in your arteries. The more blood your heart pumps and the narrower your arteries, the higher your blood pressure.

Ideally, a normal blood pressure is below 120/80 mmHg. You are said to have prehypertension if your top number ranges from 120 to 139 mmHg or your lower number ranges from 80 to 89 mmHg. Prehypertension tends to worsen over time. And anything over 140/90 mmHg

Heart disease remains the No. 1 cause of death in the U.S., with over 655,000 people dying annually, according to the American Heart Association.



DREAMSTIME/TNS

is considered hypertensive.

You should check your blood pressure two to three times a week because you don't know if it's high or if it's at goal unless you check it.

Talk with your health care provider about also getting a baseline cholesterol check, especially given your family history. Cholesterol is a waxy substance that's found in the fats in your blood. When you have too much cholesterol, you can develop fatty deposits, or lipids, in your blood vessels that can make it difficult for blood to flow through your arteries. An estimated 29 million adults in the U.S. have high cholesterol.

Feed your heart

Research shows consuming food high in sugar, salt and saturated fat can increase the risk for heart disease. But it's often difficult to change your eating habits. I encourage my patients to embrace a Mediterranean diet.

That means you should:

Eat at least five servings of fruits and vegetables per day. Besides being low in calories and rich in dietary fiber, fruits and vegetables are full of important vitamins and minerals.

Use olive oil when you cook or in

salads instead of mayonnaise or other rich condiments.

Eat at least one serving of fish per week.

Mayoclinic.org and the American Heart Association website feature many recipes.

Cut the salt—and the sugar

As good as it tastes, too much sodium can cause high blood pressure. Avoid processed foods, and stock up on a variety of herbs and spices to use in your cooking.

A diet that is low sugar is important, too. Monitoring your blood sugar levels is especially important if you have diabetes.

Move more

It's important to keep your heart healthy by getting active. American Heart Association guidelines recommend 150 minutes a week of moderate-intensity aerobic activity or 75 minutes per week of vigorous activity. Ideally, the goal would be five times a week, but it's important to find something—anything—you love to do that gets you moving, even if it's in small increments. For in-

stance, parking farther away from the grocery store entrance or taking the stairs at work instead of the elevator can count toward your fitness goals.

Lighten your load

Stress can be a trigger for many people, which can increase your blood pressure and lead to other unhealthy habits, such as smoking, difficulty sleeping and overeating. I recommend making mindfulness a part of your daily routine, as well as activities to help reduce stress and anxiety. Consider massage, yoga or meditation. Make a cup of tea and curl up with a good book. You can get your exercise in by going for a walk. Whatever you choose, your heart will benefit.

Although you may be concerned about your heart health, realize that making lifestyle adjustments takes time. Focus on one thing you can do today and then add in another change the next week. Taking small steps over time will add up, and can help you improve and maintain good heart health into the future. (*Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS*)

Dr. Amy Pollak, Cardiovascular Disease, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Florida

From trampolines to hula hoops: Unexpected cardio workouts to help you get fit

By SARA M MONIUSZKO
USA TODAY

Staying active while being stuck inside during the coronavirus pandemic is important, but it's easy to get bored with your quarantine workout routine.

If you're looking to change things up, we've rounded up some interesting ways to get active outside of your typical treadmill runs and walks around the block.

Here are some workout ideas you can try to keep your exercise routine exciting:

Try trampolines

If you want to hop onto the latest workout trend (literally), try trampolines. Though trampolines may feel like a throwback to your child-

hood, the up-and-coming trampoline workouts use smaller, in-home devices. The technique is already a favorite for celebrities such as Eva Longoria and Goldie Hawn, who posted about their bounce workouts on Instagram.

Hula hoop workouts

Remember those oversized plastic rings you used to play with as kids? Well, they could be your next throwback fitness fix. In a post on the Mayo Clinic website, Edward R. Laskowski, M.D. wrote, "Weighted hula hoops can be a good addition to your exercise program, even if you're only able to hula hoop for a few minutes at a time a couple times during the day."

You can also vary the workout with weighted hula hoops. "The

smaller and lighter the hoop, the more energy it takes to keep the hoop going," Laskowski explains. "But the bigger and heavier the hoop, the easier it is to keep going, which means you may be able to do it for a longer period of time."

Bollywood and belly dancing

Cardio dance classes like Zumba are a great way to get moving, but if you're looking for a change-up, give a different type of dance a try, like Bollywood and belly dancing. YouTube channels like Dance with Deepi offer Bollywood cardio workouts you can do from the comfort of your living room. Channels like Leilah Isaac offer belly dance workouts, which target your legs, hips and core.

12, 3, 30

If you're bored on your typical treadmill walks or runs, take on the latest treadmill trend: 12, 3, 30. Popularized by YouTuber Lauren Giraldo, who shared the idea: You set your treadmill to incline 12 and speed 3 for 30 minutes. Now the strategy has influenced other content creators and fans to give it a go, inspiring dozens of results videos.

Give boxing a go

Channel your inner Muhammad Ali by giving boxing a try. Boxing is a full-body workout that can make a big impact in a small space, making it perfect for your next at-home workout venture.

In an April 2020 interview with USA TODAY, Alex Trakas, co-founder, founding coach and CEO of

BASH Boxing, said, "Boxing is the best form of cardio there is (because) you're moving your body through all planes of motion. So when you're on a bicycle or treadmill or running outside, you're working through one plane of motion. When you're boxing, you're forced to move in every direction."

Stationary bike hack

Want to get into indoor cycling without dishing out the dough for a Peloton or other indoor bike brand? There's a device you can buy (for a lot less!) that turns your ordinary bike into a stationary one. These bike trainer stands hold your bike in place so you can get pedaling while staying safe and warm inside. You can even set it up in front of your TV! (*Contributing: Jimmy Hascup, USA TODAY*)

Life & Style

Teen who recorded Floyd's arrest, death wins Pulitzer nod

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—The teenager who pulled out her cellphone and began recording when she saw George Floyd being pinned to the ground by a Minneapolis police officer was given a special citation by the Pulitzer Prizes on Friday for her video that helped to launch a global movement to protest racial injustice.

Darnella Frazier was cited “for courageously recording the murder of George Floyd, a video that spurred protests against police brutality, around the world, highlighting the crucial role of citizens in journalists’ quest for truth and justice,” the Pulitzer Prizes said.

Frazier was not giving interviews to the media, her publicist said Friday.

Frazier was 17 when she recorded the arrest and death of Floyd, a 46-year-old Black man, on May 25, 2020. She testified at the trial of former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin that she was walking to a corner grocery store to get snacks with her then-9-year-old cousin when she saw a man being pinned to the pavement, “terrified, scared, begging for his life.”

She said she didn’t want her cousin to see what was happening so she ushered the girl into the store then went back out to the sidewalk and began recording because “it wasn’t right. He was suffering. He was in pain.” She kept recording even though she said she felt threatened when Chauvin ignored the cries of bystanders and pulled out his Mace as he knelt on Floyd’s neck for 9 minutes, 29 seconds.

Her video, which shows Floyd repeatedly saying he

couldn’t breathe before going limp, was posted to Facebook hours after it was recorded, sparking outrage in Minneapolis and beyond. It was also a prominent piece of evidence in Chauvin’s trial. Chauvin was convicted in April of second-degree unintentional murder, third-degree murder and manslaughter. He will be sentenced June 25.

The Pulitzer Board also announced Friday that the Star Tribune of Minneapolis won the breaking news reporting prize for its coverage of Floyd’s murder and its aftermath.

Roy Peter Clark, a senior scholar at the Poynter Institute, said in a column for Nieman Lab last month that Frazier should win a Pulitzer for her video. Clark, who has been a Pulitzer juror five times, told The Associated Press on Friday that Frazier was like the many journalists or artists who have won Pulitzer Prizes for standing up for tolerance, equality and social justice.

“There she was, at 17, sort of witnessing an injustice and she stood there in the face of threats and captured that video,” he said, adding, “It would be hard to select, even from the work of professional journalists over recent years or decades, a 10-minute video that had as profound an impact as this young woman’s video did.”

Frazier’s video was “globe shaking,” spoke truth to power and gave a voice to the voiceless, Clark said.

It’s unusual but not unprecedented for the Pulitzer Board to award citizens who capture news events; the famous photo of a firefighter cradling an infant after the 1995 Okla-

homa City bombing was taken by Charles Porter IV, a bank credit officer, and distributed by the AP.

Clark said the special citation that Frazier received recognizes exceptional work that falls outside specific award categories. The honor puts Frazier on a list with Ida B. Wells, Aretha Franklin, Bob Dylan, and the staff of the Capital Gazette in Annapolis, Maryland, for their

response to a 2018 shooting in their newsroom.

Frazier was also given the PEN/Benenson Courage Award last year by PEN America, a literary and human rights organization.

PEN America CEO Suzanne Nossel said at the time: “With nothing more than a cellphone and sheer guts, Darnella changed the course of history in this country, sparking a bold movement demand-

ing an end to systemic anti-Black racism and violence at the hands of police.”

During her testimony at Chauvin’s trial, Frazier told jurors that she sometimes wishes she had done more to help Floyd. She said she looks at her father and other Black men in her life and thinks about “how that could have been one of them.”

“It’s been nights I stayed up, apologizing and apologizing

to George Floyd for not doing more, and not physically interacting and not saving his life,” she testified, adding of Chauvin: “But it’s like, it’s not what I should’ve done, it’s what he should’ve done.”

The three other officers involved in Floyd’s arrest are scheduled to face trial next year on aiding and abetting counts. All four officers are also charged with violating Floyd’s civil rights.



PULITZER WINNING IMAGES

Agustina Cañamero, 81, hugs and kisses her husband Pascual Pérez, 84, through a plastic film screen to avoid contracting the coronavirus at a nursing home in Barcelona, Spain, June 22, 2020. Other photo shows a protester carrying a U.S. flag upside down, a sign of distress, next to a burning building, May 28, 2020, in Minneapolis. These images won for the Associated Press the 2021 Pulitzer Prize for feature photography.



Daughter ready to cut ties with malicious father

DEAR ABBY: I can’t stand being around my dad. I love my mom, but no longer respect her because she stays married to him. He’s a narcissistic bully. My brother agrees. My parents and I live in the same town and get together for holidays, birthdays and other events. My brother lives out of state.

I grew up with Playboy magazines lying around the house, watching my father ogle women and comment on their bodies, including mine. He shamed us constantly in front of others and thought it was funny. When I finally found my voice, he called me a b*****. He isn’t supportive and never hesitates to tell me how I’m doing something wrong. He yells at my dogs and my kids for being dogs/kids.

I would love to not see him again, but he’s my dad, and my mom loves him. I don’t want to buy him gifts or cards on his special days because it’s insincere, but I find myself doing it anyway. How do I handle this and reconcile the conflict I know will ensue if I make myself happy?

STRUGGLING IN NEVADA

DEAR STRUGGLING: Sometimes strategic withdrawal is better than an argument. Stop exposing your children and your pets to your abusive, hypercritical father’s rants, and if your mother notices and asks why, be

honest with her. See her separately if you wish, but avoid your father whenever possible. If you must see him and he starts acting up, leave. If you feel you have to gift him “something” on his special days, make it a generic card so you will feel less like a hypocrite. You deserve to be happy, and if you follow my advice, I predict your children will be happier, too.

DEAR ABBY: I lost my husband to COVID-19 five months ago. We were married for 40 years. I loved him with all my heart and always will. I met someone through a dating site who lost his wife to cancer a year ago. They were married 37 years and, like me, he loved her dearly.

We each have grown children. My daughter knows about him, but he hasn’t told his children. We live three hours apart, and while doing work for his son, he drove an hour and a half to meet me and have lunch. I thought that was so nice. We really seemed to hit it off and want to be together.

Although I’m a grown woman and know what I want, I need to know if you think it is appropriate for me to consider being with this man and possibly moving in with him after only five months since my husband’s death. Your answer will help with my decision.

LONELY LADY IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR LONELY LADY: Although this man may have “possibilities,” he still isn’t comfortable enough in the relationship to introduce you to his children. And nowhere in your letter did you mention that he has talked about the idea of you moving in with him. I think you are jumping the gun right now, and although it isn’t too soon to consider the possibilities, I do not think you should push.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in “What Every Teen Should Know.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



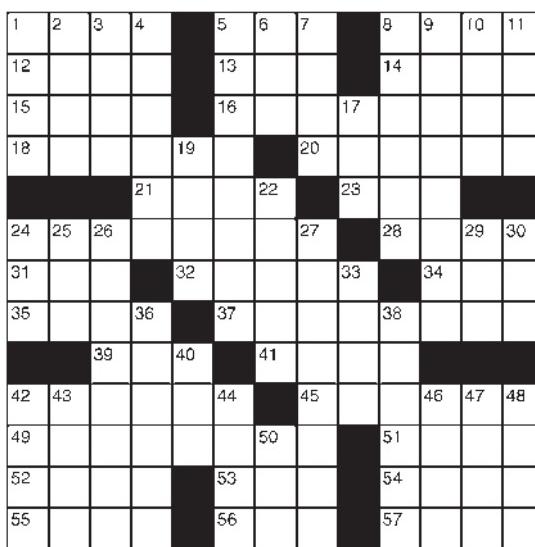
By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS		42	Polecat's	2	500	22	Day of	"Pillow	
1	Messes		kin	3	Sheets	3	Wheel-	Talk"	
up		45	Clothe	4	Chair	24	Tease		
5	Corpulent	49	Bread	5	Access	25	Gilbert		
8	Dutch	baker's	4	Gum-	and	26	Sullivan		
cheese	need	need	shoe	5	Emergency	27	princess		
12	Blue shade	51	Norwegian saint	6	Exit	28	Sidewalk		
13	Somewhat (Suff.)	52	Museo display	7	Enzyme suffix	29	Material		
14	"— pity!"	53	Sounds of hesitation	8	Spring meltdown	30	Scatter,		
15	Christen	54	Shrek, for one	9	Morals	31	as a mob		
16	Try to grab	55	Ticked (off)	10	Aroma- therapy	32	Three, in Rome		
18	Vial	56	Singer Carly — Jepsen	11	Gadget	33	Observe		
20	Faint aromas	57	Cushions	12	Starting	34	Epidermis		
21	Lincoln in-law	DOWN	13	1	Red planet	35	Rode the waves		
23	Post-op area	Sicilian spouter	14	Sicilian storage	10	Old sitcom	36		
24	Stomach ache cause, perhaps	sputter	15	storage area	40	set at Fort Courage	37		
28	Bygone jets	Solution time: 26 mins.	16	area	42	Dorm alternative	38		
31	Altar affirmative		17	area	43	Literary Jane	39		
32	Amos and Spelling		18	area	44	Go sightseeing	40		
34	Before		19	area	45	Gymnast Korbut	41		
35	Proscribes		20	area	46	Poet of yore	42		
37	Totally safe		21	area	47	Prior nights	43		
39	Snip		22	area	48	Actress Thurman	44		
41	Roasting rod		23	area					
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Last Friday's Answer 06/14

**STUMPED?**

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Lucy Hale, 32; Diablo Cody, 43; Boy George, 60; Marla Gibbs, 90.

Happy Birthday: Change begins with you. Consider what you enjoy doing the most and the people who bring out the best in you, then build the framework for a future that excites you. Don't feel you have to follow in someone's footsteps or bend to the demands others make. Your happiness is your responsibility, so take charge and turn your dream into a reality. Your numbers are 5, 13, 18, 23, 26, 32, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't rely on others when you can do things yourself. Focus on your objective, and you will reach your destination. Don't put your health at risk to please someone you love. Be smart, take action and do what's best for you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Slow down, mull over your options and keep your emotions out of the decisions you make. Handle change with dignity and optimism, and you'll discover something that offers incentives that interest you. Personal growth and self-improvement are favored. 2 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Back away from a situation if you feel you are being pressured or bullied. Reclaim what's important to you, and take the road that leads to peace of mind. Discipline and hard work will ensure you reach your objective.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Trying to dodge your duties will be futile. Embrace what you are responsible for instead of

fighting the inevitable, and clear the way to a better future. You may not like the changes taking place, but in the end, they will be beneficial.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Erratic behavior will lead to confusion and uncertainty. Make yourself clear and follow through on the promises you make. Your attitude and ease with which you relate to others will make a difference to the way they respond.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take care of what's necessary, and reflect. Too much of anything will bog you down and confuse you. Gather information, but don't act on your findings until you have verification that you are on the right track. Personal growth is encouraged.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Step up and do your part. An intelligent approach to something you enjoy doing will lead to new beginnings. Dedicate more time and effort to doing your own thing and establishing yourself in something that satisfies you. Shoot for the stars.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Keep your emotions under control, and you'll avoid getting into a disagreement with someone you love and respect. Don't spend unnecessarily or take on debt that will cause stress. Walk away from demanding people and situations. Focus on self-improvement and love.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You do best if you do your own thing and follow your heart. Refuse to let anyone talk you into something that isn't in your best interest. Discipline and hard work will pay off.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make adjustments to counter going into debt. Home improvements should ease stress, not make matters worse. Do what's feasible, regardless of the demands someone puts on you. Look for cheaper alternatives and stay within budget. Romance is encouraged.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Stop worrying about what others are doing. Concentrate on personal matters, relationships with those you live with, and making your surroundings peaceful, efficient and geared toward what makes you happy. An idea you have will pay off. Set your plans in motion.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Think twice before making an offer you may

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



COURTESY 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

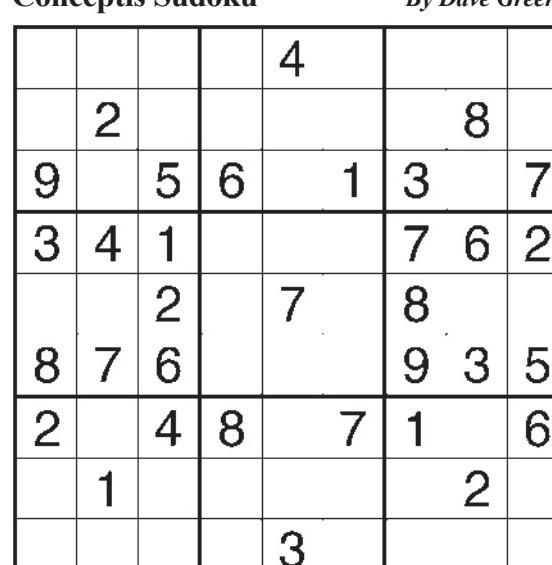
ANIMAL HOMES

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



6/14



6/14

WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ANIMAL HOMES

By DAVID OUELLET

Solution: 6 letters

N	C	E	V	I	H	E	E	B	U	R	R	O	S
A	I	S	T	S	E	F	E	R	K	A	L	A	
E	T	A	H	R	P	O	L	A	R	T	T	F	Y
C	A	R	T	E	E	S	K	C	U	E	I	E	I
O	U	N	E	N	L	S	A	H	R	E	L	N	E
B	Q	V	T	A	U	L	E	F	L	L	E	N	E
K	A	C	R	H	C	O	A	D	A	S	I	L	D
C	S	O	I	L	I	L	M	V	Y	R	E	L	O
O	C	B	Y	G	L	L	I	N	A	L	I	S	H
R	T	W	E	R									

Leonard, George help Clippers beat Jazz, cut deficit to 2-1



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Clippers coach Tyronn Lue was looking for a prime performance from both Paul George and Kawhi Leonard. They both delivered Grade A games to get Los Angeles back into its second-round series against Utah.

Leonard scored 34 points and George added 31 in the Clippers' 132-106 victory in Game 3 on Saturday night. It is the second time both have scored at least 30 in the same playoff game, and helped No. 4 seed LA cut top-seeded Utah's series lead to 2-1.

"We know that they are two of the best in the league," Lue said. "Like I said yesterday, I don't go to Mastro's to order the ketchup. I go to

order the steak. And tonight, our guys want steak. That's what we need."

George shot only 34.3% from the field in the first two games but was 12 of 24, including 6 of 10 on 3-pointers. He had 13 points in the second quarter, eight during a 13-2 run when LA seized control and took a 57-41 advantage with 2:54 remaining.

"I think I just shot my shots, got the shots I'm most comfortable with and stuck with it," George said.

Leonard scored 24 points in the second half. It is his fourth career postseason game with at least 30 points, 10 rebounds and five assists. Three have come in his two seasons with the Clippers.

The big nights from Leonard and George helped offset

Nets' Harden out, Green questionable for Game 4 vs Bucks at Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE (AP)—The Brooklyn Nets again won't have James Harden but could have forward Jeff Green back for Game 4 of their second-round playoff series with the Milwaukee Bucks on Sunday.

Nets coach Steve Nash said Saturday that Harden is out and Green is questionable for Sunday's game. Nash added that both players are "pro-

gressing well."

Harden hasn't played since leaving Game 1 of the series in the opening minute with tightness in his right hamstring. Green hasn't played at all in the series due to a plantar fascia strain.

Green last played in Game 2 of the Nets' first-round series against the Boston Celtics.

The Nets lead the Bucks 2-1 in the best-of-7 matchup.

NBA disciplines security guard from Durant-Tucker skirmish

MILWAUKEE (AP)—The NBA has disciplined the Brooklyn Nets security guard who went on the Fiserv Forum court and appeared to shove P.J. Tucker during a confrontation between the Milwaukee forward and Nets star Kevin Durant on Thursday night.

NBA officials said the security guard wouldn't be assigned to any of the remaining games in Milwaukee during the second-round playoff series between the Bucks and Nets. He won't be assigned to the court area for the second-round games in Brooklyn.

Although NBA officials didn't provide the name of the security guard, a person with knowledge of the situation identified him as Antjuan Lambert. Another person with knowledge of the situation said the security guard was Durant's personal security guy before being hired by the Nets.

The people spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because those details weren't announced. The Athletic first reported Lambert's name.

The situation stems from

an incident that occurred in the third quarter of the Bucks' 86-83 Game 3 victory.

Tucker appeared to be complaining after getting called for fouling Durant. Tucker and Durant then started jawing at each other as they got face to face. The security guard went on the court during this confrontation and put his hands on Tucker.

Milwaukee coach Mike Budenholzer said Saturday that he wasn't aware of the Bucks contacting the league to look into the matter, but he added that he didn't think it would be right for a security guard to put his hands on a player.

"If it's a Nets security guy and he's bumping our player and things like that, it doesn't seem like that's the protocol, and that's kind of what we would expect from any type of security, whether it be Bucks or Nets or Fiserv or Barclay's Center or wherever you may be playing," Budenholzer said. "I don't think you want to bump and escalate things."

The Nets lead the best-of-seven series 2-1. Game 4 is Sunday in Milwaukee.



another high-scoring game from Donovan Mitchell. The guard led Utah with 30 points, his fifth straight games with at least 30. The last player to do that was Leonard last year in the first round against Dallas.

"We kind of let them get comfortable. George hit some shots, but we can make it

tougher on him and Kawhi," Mitchell said.

Reggie Jackson and Nicolas Batum added 17 points apiece for the Clippers. LA had struggled from the perimeter in the first two games but was 19 of 36 on 3-pointers with many coming on open looks.

"Shots go in or not, our job

is to keep being aggressive for ourselves and others," Leonard said. "If Paul has it going, we're going to go to him. If I got it going, it's going to come to me. But if anybody else on the team has it going, we are going to try to get them the next shot as well."

Joe Ingles had 19 points

Nuggets face daunting deficit; Jokic faces ignominious exit

Four NHL teams have overcome 3-0 deficits in a best-of-seven playoff series, including the 1942 Stanley Cup champion Toronto Maple Leafs. The Boston Red Sox pulled off MLB's only such comeback against the New York Yankees in 2004.

The Denver Nuggets are the 143rd NBA team to go down 3-0 in a best-of-seven playoff series and nobody's ever overcome such a daunting deficit to win four straight.

The Nuggets say their only aim is to send the series back to Phoenix with a win in Game 4 Sunday night in Denver.

"The last thing I want to see is the Phoenix Suns pushing a broom across our home court," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said Friday night after Denver's 116-102 loss to the Suns.

Malone has said all along the Nuggets could show growth this season after losing a year ago to the Lakers in the Western Conference finals.

"We have had a tremendous season, tremendous. I said going into this year you can't judge a season by the end result ... But the one thing I don't want is for us just to go out quietly into that good night," Malone said. "I hope we show some real fight and resolve and force this series to go back to Phoenix for Game 5."

If not, Nikola Jokic will become the first MVP to get swept in a playoff series since the league adopted the best-of-seven format for all rounds beginning in 2003.

"We just need to go out

there and fight and give everything we've got," Jokic said.

Only three MVPs (Steph Curry in 2015, LeBron James in 2012 and '13 and Tim Duncan in 2003) have won it all

since 2003 when it's taken 16

playoff victories to raise the Larry O'Brien NBA Championship Trophy.

Curry came up just short again in 2016 when James led the Cavaliers to a Game 7 win in the NBA Finals. Since then, MVPs are just 31-24 in the playoffs with none of them even reaching the Finals.

That includes two MVPs who exited in the first round: Russell Westbrook in 2017 and Dirk Nowitzki in 2007.

NETS AT BUCKS

NEED TO KNOW: This series features the NBA's two highest-scoring teams from the regular season but has been noteworthy for its defense so far. The Bucks scored a league-high 120.1 points a game in the regular season but have averaged just 93 points in this series. Milwaukee scored a season-low 86 points in a 39-point Game 2 loss and matched that total in a 86-83 Game 3 win. The Nets had their lowest scoring output of the season in Game 3. Kevin Durant has led the way for Brooklyn by averaging 30.3 points, 8 rebounds, 4.7 assists, 2 steals and 1.3 blocks.

KEEP AN EYE ON: Nets guard forward Joe Harris. His shooting accuracy has been a reliable indicator of how this series has gone. Harris shot 12 of 23 overall and 8

of 16 from 3-point range over the first two games. He was 1 of 11 overall and 1 of 7 from beyond the arc before fouling out of the Nets' Game 3 loss.

INJURY WATCH: The Brooklyn Nets again won't have James Harden (hamstring) but could have forward Jeff Green (plantar fascia strain) for Game 4. Coach Steve Nash says Harden and Green are "progressing well."

Bucks guard Donte DiVincenzo is out for the rest of the season after tearing a ligament in his left ankle during their first-round series with Miami.

PRESSURE IS ON: Bucks forward Giannis Antetokounmpo. Although the two-time MVP is averaging 28.3 points and 12 rebounds in this series, he has shot just 3 of 16 from 3-point range and 6 of 19 on foul shots. The free-throw issues are somewhat surprising because Antetokounmpo closed the regular season by shooting 72.5% from the line after the All-Star break. He had a 10-second violation on a Game 3 free-throw attempt, the second time that's happened to him in this postseason.

SUNS AT NUGGETS

NEED TO KNOW: The Suns have won six straight games since falling behind the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers 2-1 in the opening round. Phoenix point guard Chris Paul has bounced back from his ailing shoulder that forced head coach Monty Williams to sit him in the fourth quarter twice against the Lak-

ers. In the fourth quarters against the Nuggets, Paul is 12 for 13 from the floor, including 4 for 4 on 3-pointers with eight assists and no turnovers. In Game 3, he had 27 points to go with Devin Booker's 28.

KEEP AN EYE ON: Nuggets guard Monte Morris, who responded to a challenge from Malone to be more of a factor in Game 3 after two mediocre performances in Phoenix. He scored 21 points in 30 minutes off the bench and was the only Denver player to shoot 50% or better (8 for 12) besides Zeke Nnaji (1 for 1).

INJURY WATCH: In Game 3, Nuggets' Will Barton played 28 minutes and scored 14 points in his second game back from a serious hamstring injury. P.J. Dozier (adductor) is still out. The Nuggets rallied around fallen teammate Jamal Murray, who tore his left ACL on April 12, going 13-5 down the stretch and beating the Trail Blazers in five games in the opening round. But they seem to have hit the wall in this round, showing how much they really miss their dynamic scorer who twice pumped in 50 points in the bubble in last year's playoff run.

PRESSURE IS ON: Michael Porter Jr., who hasn't been the same since tweaking his surgically repaired back just before halftime of the series opener. MPJ went 5 for 13 from the field in Game 3 for 15 points. He's shooting 36% from the floor and 38% on 3s in this series after marks of 54.2 and 44.5 in his breakout regular season. (AP)

Phillies top Yankees 8-7 for 3rd straight walkoff victory



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—

Jean Segura scored Ronald Torreyes with an infield single in the 10th inning for his second straight game-ending hit and the Philadelphia Phillies got a third consecutive walkoff win with an 8-7 victory over the New York Yankees on Saturday.

After Yankees star DJ LeMahieu hit a tying, three-run homer in the ninth, Archie Bradley (2-1) pitched a perfect 10th to strand the designated runner.

Travis Jankowski led off the bottom of the inning against Aroldis Chapman (4-2) by reaching on the pitcher's error. Jankowski bunted, and Chapman fielded the ball, checked Torreyes at second, then hurried a throw high to first. Torreyes advanced to third.

Odubel Herrera popped out, then Segura hit a hard grounder to third baseman Gio Urshela, who dived toward the line to catch it but couldn't relay the ball home ahead of Torreyes.

Bryce Harper doubled, had two singles and drove in two for the Phillies, who have won five of six.

Gary Sánchez hit a solo homer and had an RBI single, and Rougned Odor also went deep for the Yankees, who have lost six of eight.

Rangers 12, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Jonah Heim and Nate Lowe had two-run homers among their three hits apiece, and Texas snapped its 16-game road losing streak.

Jason Martin hit his first major league homer and Willie Calhoun had an RBI triple for the Rangers, who hadn't won away from Arlington since May 6. The skid matched the longest road losing streak in franchise history, set by the expansion Washington Senators in 1961. It was also the AL's longest road losing streak since 2010, and the longest within a single season since 1970.

Kolby Allard (2-2) pitched five scoreless innings of five-hit ball, striking out four with one walk. Isiah Kiner-Falefa extended his hitting streak to 10 games with three hits and also stole three bases for the Rangers.

The Rangers battered NL Cy Young Award winner Trevor Bauer (6-5) for nine hits and six runs. Bauer struck out eight and got his first hit for the Dodgers.

AJ Pollock homered for the Dodgers, whose five-game winning streak ended.

Indians 5, Mariners 4, 10 innings

In Cleveland, César Hernández scored on a throwing error by pitcher Paul Sewald in



Philadelphia Phillies' Travis Jankowski, left, Jean Segura (2) and Ronald Torreyes, right, celebrate after the Phillies defeated the New York Yankees 8-7 in 10 innings in a baseball game Saturday, June 12, 2021, in Philadelphia.

Skye Bolt added his first career home run as the A's improved to 11-2 against teams from the AL Central.

James Kaprielian (3-1) overcame control issues and pitched two-hit ball over six innings. Cam Bedrosian pitched the ninth to complete the five-hitter.

The highly touted Kowar (0-2) was tagged for four runs on five hits and three walks in just 1 1/3 innings.

Kelvin Gutiérrez homered for Kansas City, which has lost seven of eight.

White Sox 15, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Dylan Cease became the first White Sox pitcher to win his first eight career starts against an opponent in a rout of Detroit.

Brian Goodwin homered and drove in five runs in his White Sox debut.

Cease (5-2) allowed two runs on four hits in five innings. He walked one and struck out seven. He is the first major league pitcher to win his first eight starts against another team since Jamie Moyer started 10-0 against the Marlins in 2006-08.

Tigers starter Jose Urena (2-6) allowed eight runs while getting only five outs.

Marlins 4, Braves 2

In Miami, Zach Thompson pitched five scoreless innning and earned his first major league win, leading Miami over Atlanta.

Adam Duvall and Lewin Diaz hit solo homers for Miami, which won its third straight overall and second straight over the Braves to claim its first home series against Atlanta since Oct. 1, 2017.

Thompson (1-1) started the planned bullpen game and limited Atlanta to three hits, striking out six. He also got his first major league hit when he singled in the second. Dylan Floro earned his second save in five chances.

Freddie Freeman hit his 15th homer as the Braves lost their fourth straight.

Atlanta's Max Fried (3-4) was lifted after six innings, allowing three runs, five hits, struck out four and walked two.

Nick Pivetta (6-2) gave up

took the loss.

Fedde (4-4) limited the Giants to four hits while striking out seven and walking none in the first game.

The Nationals handed Kevin Gausman (7-1) his first loss this season. Gausman allowed two runs on three hits while striking out four in four innings, and exited with a 4.43 ERA. Brad Hand pitched a perfect seventh for his 11th save.

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Nick Pivetta (6-2) gave up

a season-high six runs and allowed a career-worst four of the Blue Jays' homers.

Matt Chapman also connected and drove in three runs.

Athletics 11, Royals 2

In Oakland, Calif., Matt Olson had four hits, including his 16th home run, and Oakland rallied from a five-run deficit to beat Arizona its ninth straight loss.

Matt Chapman also connected and drove in three runs.

Angels 8, Diamondbacks 7

In Phoenix, Anthony Rendon homered and drove in four runs, and Los Angeles rallied from a five-run deficit to beat Arizona its ninth straight loss.

Trailing 6-5, the Angels

scored three runs in the top of the ninth inning off Arizona closer Joakim Soria. Jose Iglesias and Taylor Ward had RBI singles and Rendon delivered a sacrifice fly.

Reliever Alex Claudio (1-1) pitched a scoreless inning of relief to get the win and Raisel Iglesias earned his 11th save for Los Angeles, which won its fifth straight.

Soria (0-3) took the loss and Josh Rojas homered twice for Arizona.

Reds 10, Rockies 3

In Cincinnati, Wade Miley delivered on the mound and at the plate, Joey Votto had a go-ahead two-run single in the third inning and Cincinnati beat slumping Colorado, which has lost each of its road series this season.

Tyler Naquin had three hits and Miley was one of four Reds with two, including Nick Castellanos. Votto and Eugenio Suárez also added two hits each for the Reds.

Miley singled twice and drew a leadoff walk in Cincinnati's two-run sixth inning. The left-hander allowed six hits and three runs, two earned, with one walk and three strikeouts in seven innings.

Mets 4, Padres 1

In New York, Marcus Stroman pitched one-run ball into the seventh inning, Francisco Lindor hit an early two-run homer and New York defeated San Diego.

Stroman (6-4) pitched 6 1/3 innings, allowing six hits and walking one while tying a season high with eight strikeouts. He took a shutout into the seventh until Fernando Tatis Jr. hit his 18th homer.

Edwin Díaz converted his 12th save in 13 chances as the Mets clinched their 11th series victory this year.

San Diego matched a season high with its fourth straight loss. The Padres also lost for the 10th time in 13 games.

Twins 5, Astros 2

In Minneapolis, José Berrios threw seven commanding innings, Jorge Polanco had three RBIs and Minnesota beat Houston.

Polanco homered for the fifth time in 11 games, and Miguel Sanó and Ben Rortvedt each drove in runs with doubles to back Berrios (7-2) in his ninth consecutive start without a loss.

Kyle Tucker and Robel García hit back-to-back home runs in the seventh for the Astros.

Taylor Rogers pitched a perfect ninth inning for his sixth save, after Hansel Robles turned in a hitless eighth.

Astros starter Luis García (5-4) gave up a career-high four runs in 4 1/3 innings.

got his 11th save.

Austin Wynns hit a grand slam for the Orioles, who are 0-5 against Tampa Bay this season.

Brewers 7, Pirates 4

In Milwaukee, Christian Yelich hit a three-run double during a five-run fourth inning and Milwaukee bailed out starter Corbin Burnes in a victory over Pittsburgh.

Burnes allowed three runs in the first inning, and loaded the bases with no outs in the fifth. Trevor Richards (1-0) relieved and struck out three straight to end the threat and preserve a three-run lead.

Yelich had two hits for his first multihit game since May 24. Omar Narváez had RBI singles in the third and fourth innings.

Pittsburgh's Chad Kuhl (0-4) gave up six runs, five earned, with five hits and four walks over 3 1/3 innings. He struck out two.

The Pirates had 10 hits, including three from second baseman Adam Frazier, but went 2 for 16 with runners in scoring position and stranded 10.

Cubs 7, Cardinals 2

In Chicago, Joc Pederson homered for the third straight game, Sergio Alcántara and Ian Happ also went deep, and Chicago used a five-run second inning to beat St. Louis.

Kyle Hendricks (8-4) threw six solid innings for his sixth consecutive victory and the Cubs won for the seventh time in 11 games.

Nolan Arenado and Paul DeJong hit home runs for the Cardinals, who have lost 10 of 12.

John Gant (4-4) lasted 1 2/3 innings to add to St. Louis' rotation struggles, allowing five runs, five walks and a hit with just one strikeout.

Craig Kimbrel earned his 17th save in 19 chances.

Rays 5, Orioles 4

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Joey Wendle hit an RBI double during a three-run first inning and AL East-leading Tampa Bay handed Baltimore its record-setting 14th consecutive road loss.

It is the longest skid since the team moved from St. Louis to Baltimore in 1954. The Orioles dropped 13 straight on the road in 2018 and also in 1988.

Since the beginning of May, the Rays are a major league-best 28-10.

Reliever Collin McHugh (1-1) struck out five and gave up one hit in two scoreless innings to pick up his first win since Aug. 30, 2019. Diego Castillo worked the ninth and

Astros starter Luis García (5-4) gave up a career-high four runs in 4 1/3 innings.

Inspired by Novotna, Krejcikova wins 1st Slam title in Paris

PARIS (AP)—Thinking of her late coach the whole time, Barbora Krejcikova went from unseeded player to Grand Slam champion at a French Open full of surprises.

Krejcikova beat 31st-seeded Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-1, 2-6, 6-4 in the final at Roland Garros on Saturday to win the title in just her fifth major tournament as a singles player.

"It's big achievement that nobody really expected," said Krejcikova, a 25-year-old from the Czech Republic who never won a WTA title of any sort until last month. "Not even me."

When it ended with Pavlyuchenkova's backhand landing long on Krejcikova's fourth match point, they met at the net for a hug. Then Krejcikova blew kisses, her eyes squeezed shut, in tribute to her former coach, Jana Novotna, the 1998 Wimbledon champion who died of cancer at age 49 in 2017.

"Pretty much her last words were just enjoy and just try to win a Grand Slam. And, I mean, I know that, from somewhere, she's looking after me," Krejcikova told the crowd at Court Philippe Chatrier, limited to 5,000 because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"All of this that just happened, these two weeks, is pretty much because she is just looking after me from up there," Krejcikova said, lifting



facing 2017 U.S. Open champion Sloane Stephens in the fourth round. Krejcikova worried she wouldn't win a game and was in tears until her sports psychologist talked her through it.

Good thing, too, because Krejcikova beat Stephens 6-2, 6-0. That went alongside wins over No. 5 seed Elina Svitolina and No. 24 Coco Gauff before Krejcikova saved a match point in the semifinals against No. 17 Maria Sakkari.

Now Krejcikova is the sixth consecutive first-time Grand Slam champion to collect the women's championship at Roland Garros, where the red clay can frustrate players by

diminishing the effectiveness of speedy serves and by creating odd bounces.

Saturday's matchup was a fitting conclusion to a tournament filled with success for new names, including a record six first-time major quarterfinalists.

Naomi Osaka withdrew to take a mental health break. No. 1 Ash Barty, the 2019 champion, retired in the second round with an injured left hip. Simona Halep, the 2018 champion, didn't play at all because of a hurt calf. Serena Williams lost in the fourth round. Defending champion Iga Swiatek lost in the quarterfinals.

Czech Republic's Barbora Krejcikova holds her trophy after defeating Russia's Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova in their final match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium Saturday, June 12, 2021 in Paris.

her left hand toward the sky. "It was amazing that I had a chance to meet her and that she was such an inspiration for me. I just really miss her. But I hope she's happy right now. I'm extremely happy."

Krejcikova is the third unseeded women's champion since 2017 at Roland Garros. There were zero from 1968 through 2016.

She now will try to become the first woman since Mary Pierce in 2000 to win

the French Open singles and doubles titles in the same year. Krejcikova and partner Katerina Siniakova already own two Grand Slam doubles titles and reached Sunday's final of that event.

Pavlyuchenkova, a 29-year-old Russian, was playing in her first Grand Slam final in the 52nd major tournament of her career — the most appearances by a woman before reaching a title match.

"Who could have thought, like, I would be in the final

now? I think I'm just going to keep on going the same, zero expectation, just working hard and doing my job," said Pavlyuchenkova, who was treated for a left leg problem late in the second set that she revealed afterward arose during her third-round victory over No. 3 seed Aryna Sabalenka.

"OK, of course," Pavlyuchenkova said, "I believe in myself a little bit more maybe, yes."

Same for Krejcikova, who spoke frankly about feeling overwhelmed by stress before

U14, and U16.

After playing college ball at Rizal Technological University and Adamson University, Cruz was drafted ninth overall in the 2014 PBA Draft by NLEX and Diaz said he couldn't have been prouder for his one-time G-Rollers player. "When Jericho was drafted in to PBA I was so proud of him with the hard work that he put in with the time with us on the G-Rollers."

On Cruz's stint with the Guam national basketball team, Diaz said at first he questioned the move, but after some thought realized that his former ward still represents the Marianas while suiting up for the U.S. territory.

"I'm also so proud that he's helping our neighboring island and to see him play with the Guam national team is a great opportunity since it's a very highly competitive team. Coach E.J. Calvo is also a great coach so Jericho is in great hands," he said.

Aside from playing for the CNMI, Cruz also suited up for the Philippines in the 2013 Southeast Asian Games in Naypyidaw, Myanmar. Both the Micronesian Games and the SEA Games are not FIBA-sanctioned tournaments and that's the reason Cruz remained eligible to play for Guam, where his family has roots.

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youth like her a chance to learn about catching the bounty of the sea.

The experience of hooking the 100-lb marlin left her almost speechless. "I saw the sword and I said 'oh wow, holy cow... It's the biggest fish I've seen and caught ever!'"

Atalig, who helped reel in the monster marlin, shared Rangamar's sentiments as he also was completely awed by the size of the fish they caught.

"It's my first time trawling on a boat. [I was] surprised we landed a 100-lb marlin. Also learned that you'll never know until you try..." said the Rota High School student.

Atalig said, in all, taking part in the Tasi To Table Youth Mini-Derby was "fun, helpful, and I learned a lot."

Captain Camacho said Lady Luck smiled at them soon after pulling up anchor from the Smiling Cove Marina.

"It was good water. We were supposed to go south but at the last minute I decided to go north. Right after we passed Mañagaha [Island] I let the lines out and when we passed LL buoy that's when we struck [the marlin].

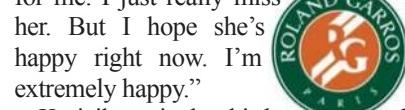
We were actually thinking of going wahoo but later on I said 'let's try and go for the marlin' and let them get that experience," he said.

Camacho added, while saying that the fight with the fish was over around 10 minutes when they managed to bring the marlin into the *Hagu Reel*.

Camacho said he's just happy that aside from topping the Tasi To Table Youth Mini-Derby, he and his crew were also able to impart their fishing knowledge to the next generation of the islands' fisher folk.

"We basically explained to them our line spread and the purpose for the outriggers so we can open up the lines and not get tangled."

Coming in second to *Hagu*



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sales manager.

Lee believes that Cruz is not the exception when it comes to basketball talent in the Commonwealth, as there are other local players who can mirror his success. He also hinted at recruiting his once-upon-a-time teammate to cultivate the basketball talent in his home islands.

"I personally believe we have a lot of potential athletes here that can go pro as well. Many if not all are limited though, from basic training/guidance to being able to go off-island and try out... that is something I'll be working on and hopefully one day be able to provide a link for our potential athletes, whether it's state-side at the university or in the Philippines. Perhaps Jericho would be able to assist on that as well since he already knows the people there," he said.

Rollers Basketball Association head coach Joe Diaz said his first encounter with Cruz was when the future PBA star was just a scrawny 12-year-old when the RBA was still called the Garapan Rollers.

"It all started when his late dad, Mr. Jose Cruz, brought him to the Garapan court on our practice day. Jericho was 12 years old when he started



MARK RABAGO

Jericho Cruz shows off his MVP trophy after dominating the U14 age group league on Saipan while playing for head coach Joe Diaz's Garapan Rollers.

with us. He quickly picked up the game naturally so I said to my wife, Vern Babauta (co-founder of G-Rollers), that this kid is going somewhere in basketball," he said.

Unfortunately, there was no league on Saipan during

that summer so Cruz's parents decided to enroll their son to a one-month basketball camp in the Philippines. He returned to Saipan a much improved player and went on to win MVP awards in island age group leagues in the U12,

Reel was *Sweet Candy* captained by George Moses with the crew of Mike Kukun and Inas Lizama Jr. and students Cody Dela Cruz and Lorenzo Hocog. They went home with a 15.2-lb wahoo.

In third place with a 11.6-lb wahoo was *Roil Soil* fronted by captain Shayne Villanueva and his lone crew Justin Cashman. Their students were Alex Limes and Sirlashu Dela Cruz.

A 3.3-lb skipjack gave 10-7 fourth place. The boat is skippered by Alvin Iglesias who had students Austin Guiawen and Tyrel Pascual as crewmembers

Salty Bandits finished fifth among 14 boats with their catch of a 3.1-lb skipjack. It was captained by Masaki Kitami and manned by Keith Fernandez and students Haven Hocog and Zander Atalig.

Tasi to Table vice president Wayne Pangelinan said the Tasi To Table Youth Mini-Derby was a success and thanked all the captains and their crew for sharing their knowledge and time to the islands' youth. "We applaud everyone as this is a sure win for our CNMI," he said.

The sponsors for last Saturday's Tasi To Table Youth Mini-Derby are the following: D&Q Saipan, MarPac Distributors, Coca Cola Beverage Company, Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management, Pacific Auto, Kautz Glass Company, Islander Rent A Car, IT&E, Fishing Tackle & Sporting Goods, Athlete's Foot, Joeten Ace Hardware, Herman's Modern Bakery, The Shack Saipan, Zori Zori, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Aqua Resort Club, Saipan Ice & Water, Casa Urashima Restaurant, Grotto Garlic Restaurant, Department of Lands & Natural Resources, Division of Fish & Wildlife, American Memorial Park, Smiling Cove Marina, Department of Public Safety, Tinian Mayor's Office and the Tinian Municipal Council, Rota Mayor's Office and the Rota Municipal Council, CNMI Public School System, Rep. Leila Staffler (D-Saipan), and Bryan Rassilyer.



Leonard, George help
Clippers beat Jazz,
cut deficit to 2-1

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Inspired by Novotna,
Krejcikova wins 1st
Slam title in Paris

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Hagu Reel tops Tasi to Table derby

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

A pair of 16-year-olds and the veteran crew of *Hagu Reel* landed a mighty 100-lb marlin to win last Saturday's Tasi To Table Youth Mini-Derby held in the waters off Saipan.

Skippered by Christian "Hollywood" Camacho with a crew of Ken Salas and Jess Guerrero along with Marianas High School's Kina Rangamar and Rota High School's Landon Atalig, the *Hagu Reel* didn't only catch the heaviest fish of the derby, but also got back to the Smiling Cove Marina the swiftest as they checked in at 8:21am or not even 2 hours and 30 minutes after the 14 boats taking part in the one-day fishing tournament left the dock.

In a way the 100-pounder Camacho and company land-



Marianas High School student Kina Rangamar and Rota High School student Landon Atalig pose with *Hagu Reel* captain Christian "Hollywood" Camacho and crewmembers Ken Salas and Jess Guerrero after the weigh-in of their 100-lb marlin at the Smiling Cove Marina Saturday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas members in action during the ball toss game of the 2021 Sports Day last June 5 at the Oleai Track and Field.

Japanese group holds Sports Day

The Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas held its annual Sports Day last June 5 at the Oleai Track and Field. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the annual event was cancelled last year.

The non-profit organization followed the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force's directives and measures and were able to enjoy the event this year.

According to Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas vice president Hiroko Tajima, they divided the members into two teams—Team Red and Team White. There were various unique competitions such as ball toss, tug-of-war, and relays.

The ball toss game had players throw the balls into their team basket on the top

of the high pole for a limited time. The balls in each of the baskets were then counted and the team that got the most balls won.

The tug-of-war had players from Team Red and Team White each pull the big rope from the opposite side. If either of the team's mark on the rope passes the "judgement" line at the center, the team loses the game.

Nearly 100 members of the Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas enjoyed the 2021 Sports Day. The non-profit organization hopes to hold many other fun events such as Autumn Festival this year.

For more information on the Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas or their events, call Tajima at 287-8780. (PR)



ed Saturday ran counter to the mini derby of the Tasi to Table Youth Fishing Club-organized event as there's nothing mini about the catch.

Originally, the crew wasn't even supposed to catch billfish as Camacho said their plan was to catch wahoo at first,

"Honestly I'm still shocked that we managed to catch this. Originally everybody came to

do wahoo and mahi but they decided to go big or go home and we got that marlin," said Rangamar, who helped drive the boat.

The MHS student, the daughter of CNMI Sports Hall of Fame inductee Elias Ranagamar, said the Tasi to Table Youth Fishing Club is a great program and allows

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CNMI wishes Jericho good luck

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Former CNMI national player Jericho Cruz maybe playing for Guam now, but this hasn't stopped his former teammate in the CNMI national team and one of his first basketball coaches from cheering for the 6'1 NLEX star in the Philippine Basketball Association.

Cruz and the Guam men's national basketball team went up against Hong Kong last night and again on Tuesday, June 15, in the FIBA Asia Cup 2021 Qualifiers in Amman, Jordan. At stake, is a spot in the 2021 FIBA Asia Cup set for August in Indonesia.

"I'm happy that Jericho Cruz is able to take part in representing the Marianas regardless if it's playing for

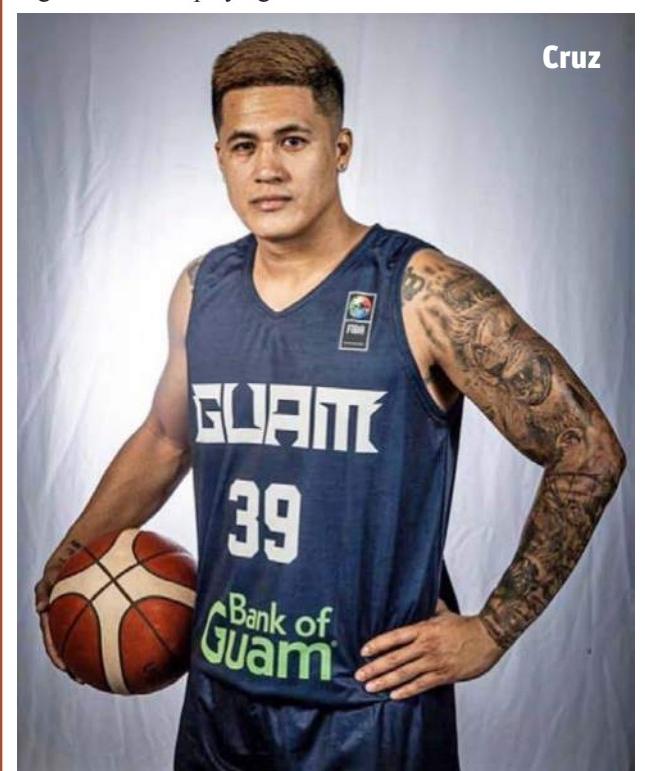


Guam or the CNMI. Hopefully one day, the CNMI will qualify for those bigger regional competitions and we'll be able send our own team," said James Lee, who is now the president of the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation and played with Cruz in the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau.

Lee said even at a young age Cruz oozed potential and he's proud of what his former teammate in the CNMI national team has achieved playing professional basketball in the Philippines.

"Even when he was on island, I remember him being this young skinny kid at the Garapan basketball court playing for G-Rollers," said the now Marpac beverage

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Cruz